

THE Hongkong Weekly Press AND China Overland Trade Report.

VOL. XLIX.]

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, 14TH JANUARY, 1899.

No. 2.

CONTENTS.

Epitome of the Week, &c.	21
Leading Articles:—	
The United States and the Philippines	22
A Critic of Lord Charles Beresford	22
Progress in China	23
The Czar of Russia's Disarmament Proposals	24
Anglo-French Relations.....	24
Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.....	24
The Crisis in the Philippines.....	25
The Deadlock in the Philippines.....	27
The Pacific Cable	28
Loss of the steamer <i>Glenavon</i>	28
The Pantomime	29
The Tung Wah Hospital	30
Water Return.....	31
Football	31
Cricket.....	32
Royal Hongkong Yacht Club	32
The Royal Hongkong Golf Club	32
Wanchai Wharehouse and Storage Co., Limited.....	33
Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited	33
Queen Mines, Limited	33
Great Eastern and Caledonian Gold Mining Co., Limited	33
Correspondence	33
H.M.S. Woodcock	35
Hongkong and Port News	35
Commercial	37
Shipping	40

MARRIAGES.

On the 6th December, 1898, at St. Paul's, Avenue Road, by the Rev. Herbert Bury, vicar, ALFRED BROWN, of Hankow, China, to HELENE, only daughter of Hermann FRITSCH, of 145 King Henry's Road, South Hampstead.

On the 31st December, 1898, at Los Angeles, Cal., HUGO GRUEN, of Shanghai, to ANNIE G. MORRIS HALLER, of Chicago. No cards.

On the 3rd January, 1899, at the British Consulate, Wuhu, by M. F. A. Fraser, Esq., and afterwards by the Rev. S. C. Partridge, M. A., WILLIAM RICHARD COLIN FORD, to ELSIE LAURA (NAINIE), only daughter of W. A. HOWELL, Esq., of Wuhu.

At the Union Church, on the 12th January, by the Rev. G. J. Williams, THOMAS WILLIAM GROVES, to MARY, fourth daughter of the late R. H. MUNRO, Dunedin, New Zealand.

DEATHS.

At Ningpo, on the 5th January, 1899, A. McCALLUM, chief officer of Indo-China S. N. Co.'s steamer *Wosang*, aged 51 years.

At Tientsin, on the 5th January, 1899, PIERRE LOUP. Deeply regretted.

At the Shanghai General Hospital, on the 6th January, 1899, LARS A. ABBEY, aged 30 years.

At the Peak Hotel, on the 6th instant, MABEL, the beloved wife of T. CHARLES CRANE, aged 19 years.

ARRIVALS OF MAIIS.

The English mail of the 9th December arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Bengal*, on the 7th January (29 days); and the German mail of the 12th December arrived, per N. D. L. steamer *Preussen*, on the 11th January (30 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

From the *Foochow Echo* we learn that distress prevails around that part of Fuhkien owing to the scarcity and consequent high price of food. The yield of the second crop of rice was only a third of the average quantity and the sweet potato crop was quite as disappointing.

The death of Mr. Pryer, of North Borneo, at Port Said, is reported by Reuter.

H.E. Lu Chuen-lim, the new Governor of Canton, arrived there on the 6th January and was to take over the seals of office on the 7th.

A Yokohama despatch of the 30th December states that kerosine has suddenly risen by 10 sen per case, owing to the non-arrival of vessels expected before the new Tariffs go into operation.

The correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes from Chungking on the 20th ult. that the Yu Man-tze trouble is nowhere near its end. A foreign force is the only solution of the difficulty.

An inquiry into the loss of the steamer *Glenavon* was opened at the Harbour Office on the 12th January and concluded on the 13th. The captain's certificate was suspended for twelve months.

The Hon. John Carroll, late American Minister to Siam, who since he left Bangkok has paid a long visit to the Philippines and afterwards to Peking, delivered an interesting address on the politics of the Far East at the hall of the Imperial Education Society, Tokyo, on the 25th December.

The steamer *Abana*, which was wrecked off Labuan recently on a sunken reef, and afterwards beached to prevent her sinking in deep water, has been floated off, we learn from the *Singapore Free Press*, with the tug boat and appliances sent out by the Tanjong Pagar Dock Co., and has now been towed into Labuan.

A Canton correspondent writes that on the 4th January H.R.H. Prince Henry was entertained at a banquet at the Kwongyah city library by the Provincial Treasurer, the Judge, the Salt Commissioner, the Prefect, and the Magistrates. The banqueting hall was gorgeously decorated with red, yellow, and gold embroidery.

Messrs. Carlowitz & Co., agents for the North German Lloyd steamer *Bamberg*, inform us that, according to a telegram received on 9th Jan., the steamer arrived at Colombo on Friday at 6 p.m. Fire had broken out on board whilst on her way from Singapore to Colombo. Apparently the steamer is only slightly damaged, but cargo stowed in the after holds is reported to be much damaged and will have to be discharged.

The Queen held a private investiture at Windsor Castle on the 18th December. Under the heading of "Order of St. Michael and St. George" the Court Circular states:—"James Haldane, Stewart Lockhart, Esq., Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General of the Colony of Hongkong, was then introduced, when the Queen was pleased to affix to his left breast the Decoration of a Companion of this Most Distinguished Order."

We hear that news arrived at Sandakan on the 30th December that Mat Salleh and his followers have at length fallen out. He is reported to have killed seven of them and to have declared that he will wipe out the tribe. It is further stated that he has himself been wounded in the neck, thus having destroyed his reputation for invulnerability, and Mat Salleh is said to be asking for the assistance of the British North Borneo Company.

A Reuter's telegram states that a sensation was caused in the United States Senate by Mr. Hoar, a prominent Senator, opposing the ratification of the treaty of peace between the United States and Spain, and declaring that the acquisition of territory in the other hemisphere destroys the Monroe doctrine.

From telegrams in Manila papers we learn that the retirement of Rear-Admiral Bunce, which was gazetted on the 31st December, places Rear-Admiral Dewey at the head of the American Navy List. It is stated that President McKinley will recommend to Congress the establishment of the rank of Admiral or Vice-Admiral, in order that Rear-Admiral Dewey may be promoted thereto.

The *London Gazette* contains the official announcement of the Order of Her Majesty in Council sanctioning the increase in the active list of officers in the Navy. There will be twelve additional flag-officers, forty-eight captains, seventy-three commanders, and 288 lieutenants, and a similar increase in the list of chief gunners, chief boatswains, chief carpenters, and warrant officers. Commodore Holland is to be one of the new Admirals, but whether the promotion of the popular Commodore will entail his transfer from his present appointment is, we believe, uncertain. There is a possibility that in future the Hongkong Naval Yard, in view of its growing importance, may be in charge of a Real Admiral, thus giving us three Admirals on the China Station. This station has now assumed an importance almost equal to that of the Mediterranean.

A deadlock has arisen between the Americans and the Filipinos, and the situation is most critical. An expedition sent by General Otis from Manila to take over the town of Iloilo from the Spanish authorities found the Insurgents in possession, the Spaniards having already left. The Insurgents declared their intention of resisting if the Americans attempted to land, and the troops remained on board the transports while a message was sent to Manila for further instructions. In the meantime General Otis had issued a proclamation based upon instructions he had received from Washington to the effect that he was to assume the government of the islands. This greatly incensed the natives and Aguinaldo has replied by counter proclamations declaring for complete independence. Any attempt to land American troops at Iloilo will, it is said, be regarded as an act of war by the Filipinos and hostilities will be commenced simultaneously at Iloilo and Manila. If the Americans determine upon the conquest of the islands a strong and long continued military effort will be required. The Insurgents have, it is estimated, at least thirty thousand well armed men and ample supplies of munitions, having arsenals of their own in operation, and as far as can be learned the whole country is united in its support of Aguinaldo, so that the Americans would be unable to count upon the assistance of any portion of the population. The Philippine Government and Congress would, it is understood, be willing to accept a protectorate, provided they were allowed control of their own internal affairs. Should the Americans decide to proceed with the conquest they will probably find the task before them comparable in point of difficulty with the British suppression of the Indian mutiny.

THE UNITED STATES AND THE PHILIPPINES.

(*Daily Press*, 10th January.)

From news received by way of Australia we learn that a month ago Admiral DEWEY reported to the United States Government that it was not likely the Philippines would submit peacefully to American rule, and that the attitude of AGUINALDO, the Insurgent leader, was very ugly. Since then we have had direct telegrams notifying the despatch of reinforcements from the States and that if AGUINALDO refuses to disarm and disband his forces within a reasonable time an attempt will be made to arrest him. The Americans cannot be congratulated on their management of affairs in the Philippines up to the present point, apart from the actual fighting which they have had to do. The officers in command are either much better fighters than administrators or in their latter capacity they have been too much hampered by instructions from Washington to be able to embark on a clearly defined line of policy adapted to the daily varying circumstances of an unusual situation. The capture of Manila was deferred, without any ostensible reason, until after the signature of the treaty of peace, and America was thereby placed at a moral disadvantage in the public opinion of Europe. The same inexplicable procrastination has characterised their action with regard to Iloilo. Instead of entering upon the occupation as soon as the signing of the treaty of peace declared the whole of the Philippines an American possession, and when their appearance would have been welcomed by both Spaniards and Insurgents, they waited until the latter had driven the Spaniards out. The Insurgents being then in possession, and having achieved, as they considered, their independence, were naturally reluctant to welcome a new set of masters. The result is that the American vessels are now lying off the port awaiting further orders before landing the troops, while the Insurgents are daily strengthening their position, both morally and materially. Then, again, the Insurgents in Luzon brought their civil and military organisation to its present state of perfection with the moral if not formal support of America, and to ask them now to break it up like a worn-out plaything cannot fail to be galling to a people who are not devoid of spirit and who are experiencing the first sensations of what they regard as political emancipation. There is still hope that wise counsels on both sides may lead to a peaceful arrangement, but at the moment a conflict appears extremely probable.

The present position of the Insurgents in Luzon was concisely set out by the Hon. JOHN BARRETT, late American Minister to Siam, and who since he left Bangkok has paid a long visit to the Philippines, in an address on the affairs of the Far East delivered the other day at Tokyo under the auspices of the Imperial Educational Society. Speaking of AGUINALDO Mr. BARRETT said:—"While I cannot espouse his cause nor sympathize with his efforts,—if he shall make them,—to resist American authority, I believe that he is deserving of far more credit and consideration than are usually given him. Perhaps the best appreciation of his ability and the strength of his organization can be attained by my stating that he is practically governing the entire island of

Luzon outside of Manila and Cavite, where alone American jurisdiction prevails, that he is preserving law and order among the people, that he has a regular ministry, with its departments of foreign affairs, interior, war, finance, &c., a carefully organized congress of some 100 members, and an army of 30,000 men equipped with modern rifles and ammunition. Brought back to Luzon by the consent of Admiral DEWEY and co-operation of Consuls-General WILDMAN and PRATT, and Consul WILLIAMS, he has gradually strengthened his position after co-operating with the American forces for the capture and expulsion of Spanish arms, until now he is a strong factor in the settlement of the future control of the islands. It is my belief that if he is approached with good judgment and diplomacy on the part of American officials, a conflict with him can be avoided, and peace and prosperity established for ever among the natives under American jurisdiction. I have confidence that with such men as Admiral DEWEY and Major-General OTIS directing affairs the difficulties of the situation will be happily solved." On the latter point we can hardly any longer share Mr. BARRETT's confidence. If the Americans are determined to refuse self-government to the Filipinos they will have to subjugate them by what we fear will prove a long and sanguinary war. As Mr. BARRETT says, the Filipinos have an army of thirty thousand men equipped with modern rifles, and although their total lack of sea power would place them at a disadvantage in securing fresh supplies from abroad we infer that they have set up arsenals of their own and would for some time at all events be able to supply themselves. Having regard to the nature of the country and climate the destruction of this army of thirty thousand men would require a prolonged military effort on the part of America. Would the country be prepared to support that effort?

The Filipinos would, we believe, be prepared at the present time to accept an American protectorate with its consequent American control of the foreign relations of the country and American or international jurisdiction over foreigners resident in the islands. Such a protectorate would seem to offer a sufficient guarantee against internecine disturbance or foreign aggression, while the conduct of the Filipinos during the past eight months justifies confidence being reposed in them to the extent of allowing them autonomy under these guarantees. The ideas of the United States with regard to the future of the country have not as yet been clearly formulated beyond the declaration that the island are to be considered American territory. At first it appeared to be in contemplation to govern the country on similar lines to an English Crown Colony; more recently the admission of the inhabitants to the full rights of American citizenship has been mooted. A protectorate, however, would be better than either plan and would avoid any possible difficulties that might arise over the tariff question, as it is to be assumed that under a protectorate imports would be admitted from all countries on equal terms. In his Tokyo address already referred to Mr. BARRETT said that if he were candidly asked what would be the ultimate policy of the United States in its Asiatic possessions he would say that of fair trade to all, but he would not deny that from the standpoint of the protectionist there may be strong arguments of discrimination. Whether the arguments

be strong or not, certain it is that the protectionists are in favour of making of the Philippines a close preserve for American trade, and the experience of the French in Saigon in comparison with that of England in Hongkong and Singapore, which Mr. BARRETT says will have an effect on the American people when they study the question, will we fear not avail to dissipate protectionist prejudices. Assuming the Philippines to become American territory, then, this important question would have to be decided by the electorate, and it is quite possible the protectionists might carry the day, even though the decision might be inconsistent with America's desire for an open door in China. The development of the Philippines might proceed as well under a protectorate as under annexation, and, setting aside questions of sentiment, the real point that would be at issue in a war between the Americans and Filipinos would be the right of the former to establish exclusive advantages for themselves.

A CRITIC OF LORD CHARLES BERESFORD.

(*Daily Press*, 11th January.)

In another column we publish a letter signed "Wideawake" in which the writer boldly attacks the policy proposed by Lord CHARLES BERESFORD and supports the formal recognition of spheres of influence. Before proceeding to discuss "Wideawake's" proposals there are two inaccuracies in his letter that should be pointed out. He credits Lord CHARLES BERESFORD with saying that there was no trade in Manchuria. What his lordship did say was that there was no Russian trade in Manchuria. Our correspondent also says that France has successfully defeated an application for a concession for a British railway from Kowloon to Canton. France protested against the granting of such a concession, but unsuccessfully, when the railway in question is undertaken it will be as a British enterprise. Having thus cleared the way we may proceed to consider "Wideawake's" proposals. Passing over the general attack on China's Irish advisers, which may be taken for what it is worth, we come to the question of Russia's sphere of influence in Manchuria. With the terminus of the great Siberian railway at Taliewan it is inevitable that Russian influence in Manchuria must be predominant. The province may remain nominally Chinese and its trade may continue open to all nations on equal terms, but amongst the foreign residents Russian subjects will be in a majority and they will give the tone to the social and business life of the community. "Wideawake" speaks of the open door as a variously defined idea, and the same might be said of spheres of influence. Lord CHARLES BERESFORD told us in his Shanghai speech that the door in Manchuria had been shut, absolutely shut; Mr. CHAMBERLAIN tells us it has been kept open, though not without difficulty. Evidently they cannot both be thinking of the same thing. So also with regard to spheres of influence; many, including Lord CHARLES BERESFORD and our correspondent, appear to regard the establishment of a sphere of influence as equivalent to the formal annexation of territory. How wide a distance may separate the two ideas, however, may be seen by a glance at Egypt, which is undoubtedly a sphere of British influence, though there has been no annexation of the country nor even the declaration of a protectorate. The destiny of Russia is as

clearly marked out in Manchuria as that of England in the Nile Valley, but there is no reason in the world why the door should not be kept wide open to the trade of all nations. If Russia is not disposed to guarantee this voluntarily and in her own interests the other great Powers could easily impose it as a condition that must be fulfilled. That we take to be the meaning of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's recent declaration that an understanding with Russia was possible and desirable. So long as England can secure an open door for her trade she can afford to snap her fingers at spheres of influence.

We come now to "Wideawake's" suggestions with regard to the so-called spheres of influence to be accorded to the other Powers primarily interested, namely, England, Germany, France, and Japan, and here it may be well to remember the item in the recipe for cooking a hare - first catch your hare. Assuming that "Wideawake's" proposed carving up of China were considered consonant with British interests would the other Powers mentioned be satisfied with the division and would they be disposed to accept the responsibilities thrown upon them? Two of the Powers named, Germany and Japan, are understood to favour the maintenance of China's integrity, and American opinion also inclines to the same side. The maintenance of that integrity is England's traditional policy, and if she is prepared, either alone or in conjunction with other Powers, to assume the direction of the government the policy is perhaps not impossible of accomplishment. China may be destined ultimately to share the fate of Poland, in which case England must be ready to take her proper share, but in the meantime it appears worth while giving the country another chance. And seeing what has been accomplished in Egypt, both in the civil administration and the army. China's case cannot be regarded as absolutely hopeless, provided the appropriate remedy be applied. As to whether the treatment should first be applied to the army or the civil administration opinions seem to differ, and it may be useful to point out an inconsistency of which some of the controversialists seem to be guilty—and small blame to them, for in China inconsistency seems to overtake us all. But the particular inconsistency we would point out is this, that at the time of KANG Yu-wei's collapse it was affirmed with the utmost confidence that all the drastic reforming decrees inspired by that gentleman could have been carried out without any fear of opposition in the provinces, that the country was ripe for the reforms and would have welcomed them. It is now affirmed with equal confidence that any attempt at reform would be foredoomed to failure unless backed up by a reorganised army officered by Europeans. The weathercock of opinion on this subject has changed from due north to due south. Whichever view may be correct, however, it must be conceded that the army, as one of the principal departments of the state, must share in the general reorganisation, and the sequence in which the departments are taken in hand is perhaps not fundamentally important; if the decision be in favour of taking the army in hand first we may be assured that reform of the civil administration will follow in due course. But there must be none of that weakness in dealing with the case of the exhibition of which in the past "Wideawake" so justly complains; it must be clearly understood that the patient is to obey the doctor's orders and to be subjected to restraint if he grows refractory.

PR'ESS IN CHINA.

(*Daily Press*, 7th January.)

Even China moves. Perforce, perhaps, but yet she stirs. The reforming spark has indeed been for the time almost extinguished, and the light of progress burns dim and low, but it will in time be fanned once more to a flame. Meanwhile the influences that will revive it are not even now without their silent pressure on the dull black mass of ultra conservatism that has lately enjoyed so signal a triumph in the celestial capital. The Empress Regent and her supporters, who were able at a stroke to remove the EMPEROR himself and make a clearance of all his assistants in the work of reform, have been wholly unable to set the clock back any further. They are unable to arrest the onward progress of Muscovite domination; they cannot stay the development of the railways that by and bye are bound to effect wonderful transformations in the empire; and they are compelled by outside pressure to consider the propriety of opening up all the inland waterways, the mines, and the other natural resources of the country. They are under the necessity, by the pressure in the North, of conciliating the other Treaty Powers lest they should be left entirely to the tender mercy of the Great Bear, whose hug is dreaded as his power is gradually becoming appreciated. Now that the tiger's skin has been stripped off the bare and unprotected flanks of China no great military Power is likely in future to allow its time to be wasted by the procrastinating pleas and shallow faradiddles of the mandarins. When, therefore, the representative of a Great Power speaks resolutely, and makes a clear demand, the Tsungli Yamen pay such attention to the communication as was certainly not dreamed of in Peking a few years ago. Then all that was thought of was how best to humbug the applicant; now the consideration is, how much must be conceded. The mandarins are not more willing to meet foreign demands, but they realise their present inability to safely deny them.

This change is in many ways one for the better; it will help forward the task of opening up this great Empire to trade most materially; and it will undoubtedly lead to a great increase in trade. Chinese officials are not willing instruments in this work; they will, by obstruction and corrupt practices, do their utmost to nullify the efforts of foreigners to develop the resources of the country. But they must go some of the way that they are wanted to travel; and though the drag be heavy, the coach will roll lumbering along. Later on it may acquire momentum. Possibly, if we had many statesmen like Lord CHARLES BERESFORD, it would gather force rapidly. The provincial officials welcomed his lordship with more heartiness than they usually accord to foreign visitors. They no doubt saw in him a representative Briton who would speak with authority in his own land on his return, and they perhaps thought that they discerned in his programme a useful check upon the intrusive Cossack. However that might be, the noble and gallant representative of British commerce met with the best and most courteous reception from the different Viceroys. He was shown everything he wanted to see, he was treated with distinguished consideration, and his criticisms, if they failed to convince, were at any rate everywhere received in good part and in some instances perhaps with welcome. No doubt the recollection of what was effected for China by another British officer, the lamented GORDON, in-

duced them to listen with more than ordinary interest to Lord CHARLES BERESFORD when he volunteered to show them a way out of present difficulties. It is true that his suggestions went no further than the first step in a scheme by which in his opinion the empire may be cured from the dry rot which has attacked the vast and unwieldy body. Six years ago his overtures might have received a hearing, but beyond that no attention would have been given to them. Strong in their own conceit, invulnerable to all criticism, they would have dismissed warnings and laughed at suggestions for improvement. What other could be expected from the people who, when their foreign armed soldiers had been hopelessly routed by a numerically inferior force of Japanese, had reverted to the manufacture of jingals!

But, as we have said, China moves, because the pressure on her compels movement. The passes in her mountain ranges will at no distant period be crossed by the iron way; the rapids of the Upper Yangtze will be made practicable to light draught steamers; the erratic course of the Yellow River will be brought under due restraint, and China's Sorrow converted into China's Blessing; the rich mineral treasures beneath the soil will be made to contribute to the nation's wealth; and the magnificent system of inland waterways will bear on their broad bosoms tenfold the commerce they now carry. But this will not be accomplished by the people of China or by their officials, though they will be made to assist in the work. The immutable laws of progress, stronger than the seemingly impregnable armour of celestial vanity, are working steadily in this direction, and the whole fabric of Chinese conservatism is powerless to arrest the march of events. The EMPEROR may, as was the case a few months ago, be removed from the Dragon Throne by a coup d'état, the dynasty itself may give place to another, or the system of government may be wholly changed, but the wheels of progress must now revolve. They have been scotched for a long period, but the obstructions are gradually being removed, and though the advance be slow it is likely in future to be fairly steady. The very want of funds which is now growing so acute will serve to accelerate the rate of progress. However unwilling, the mandarinate will have to give up preconceived notions and set aside prejudices in order to conciliate the people to whom they will have to look for assistance. A notable instance in point was the unparalleled—in Chinese history—innovation submitted to with a wonderfully good grace by the Empress Dowager, when she held a reception of European ladies. The details of this function have been supplied by our Peking correspondent. It took place on the 13th December in the famous Forbidden City, and the ladies were not only received in person by the EMPRESS but entertained at luncheon and presented with mementos of the visit in the shape of handsome pearl rings and other gifts, and they bore away with them, as was intended, most pleasing impressions of Her Majesty's grace and affability. This concession to the wishes of foreigners was obtained through the instrumentality of Prince HENRY of Prussia, who suggested the reception to the Empress Dowager when he had audience with Her Majesty at Peking. The Empress, who is a naturally shrewd woman, saw quickly that there would be advantages to be gained. It was desirable to place herself in a better light before the Foreign Powers and do something to obliterate, if

possible, the recollection of recent tragic and sinister events in the capital, and she was ready to sacrifice race prejudices and old time traditions to recover lost prestige and inspire some new confidence in the present administration. She has established a precedent which will "broaden slowly down" to others and pave the way for the final destruction of that most injurious seclusion which has been gradually sapping the prestige as well as the power of the Son of Heaven instead of preserving it. Even China moves!

THE CZAR OF RUSSIA'S DISARMAMENT PROPOSALS.

(*Daily Press*, 12th January.)

The *Times* has again undertaken a great and patriotic work. Now that the Emperor NICHOLAS II. has become the Apostle of Peace and is urging, with what we believe to be most genuine interest, his project for disarmament, it is obviously not only useful but essential that we should know whether the CZAR speaks for Russia as a Power. There was a time, not so very distant, when Russian Czars were really the Autocrats of all the Russias, when their lightest word was not only law, but was obeyed implicitly in the remotest corners of their vast dominions. But, under the rule of the ROMANOFFS, the system of government in Russia has been gradually undergoing a great change. A new law is still nominally the will of the Czar, and the simple peasants still abjectly submit to a degrading tyranny because they regard it as the rule of the Little "Father," but the real power has passed into the hands of a Bureaucracy, which has practically reduced the CZAR to a figurehead, and which dictates the policy for which he is made responsible. The CZAR is still allowed the shadow of his former authority, but in actual practice he is, in foreign and domestic politics, reduced to a mere register of the decisions of the Council of Ministers. It suited the Russian Chancellor no doubt most entirely that the young CZAR, whose desires are known to be in the direction of general peace and commercial progress, should come forward with proposals for international disarmament, for if other Powers could be caught napping and, in their desire to reduce the military burdens under which they groan, induced to agree to some scheme of the kind foreshadowed, it would be quite in line with Muscovite ideas. But for the Russian Government, which already maintains so gigantic an army and which is strenuously adding to the navy at a rate out of all proportion to the needs of the country for self-defence, to set the example by at least refraining from making uncalled for additions to the expenditure in these departments evidently was not to be thought of. The *Times*, following the example of the French papers some years ago, who sent a special commissioner to Egypt to report on British financial administration there, has deputed its correspondent in Russia to make an independent and unbiased report of what is going on in the arsenals and dockyards, and his account is to the effect that despite the Czar's recent peace manifesto, feverish activity prevails in the Russian dockyards and that the numbers enrolled in the Army and Navy in October and November are larger than in any previous year, while reinforcements are being sent to the Far East as fast as transport permits. This state of affairs is not, it must be confessed, much calculated to inspire confidence in the ability of NICHOLAS II. to enforce his precepts by example.

Not is it likely to help forward the cause he has at heart. At the same time the publication of the facts stated by the *Times* correspondent cannot fail to serve a useful purpose in preventing the other Powers from being duped by the Russian Chancellor. A time may come, perhaps, in the approaching century, when some movement in the direction of converting swords into ploughshares may take place, but the closing years of the nineteenth century are not likely to witness such a change. We wish the Emperor NICHOLAS every success in his crusade against barbarous, costly, and savage War and we hope that he may live to see the leading Powers all animated by a true and loyal desire to promote and secure the blessings of Peace, but in the meantime he will do well to try and introduce into his great empire a little more of that freedom the want of which has created Nihilism and is laying the seed of a formidable revolution, which may some day blaze into a civil war not less terrible than that which overtook France a hundred years ago and left her to this day in a state of political unrest and uncertainty.

ANGLO-FRENCH RELATIONS.

(*Daily Press* 11th January.)

The French press, so Reuter informs us, accuses Great Britain of encouraging dangerous irritation. France, both by her governments and her press, has been encouraging dangerous irritation for the last twenty years, and it seems rather foolish of her now to get irritated herself at the mere publication of the facts connected with one of the disputes that have occurred during that period. We opine that the Madagascar blue book is only the precursor of others, and that Lord SALISBURY has determined to make known the true course of Anglo-French relations in recent years with a view to bringing the regime of continual bickering to an end and so avoiding dangerous irritation in the future.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the monthly meeting of the General Committee of the General Chamber of Commerce, held at 11.30 a.m. on Tuesday, the 10th January, 1899. Present: Messrs. R. M. Gray (Chairman), A. Haupt, J. J. Bell-Irving, T. Jackson, A. McConachie, W. Poate, H. A. Ritchie, N. A. Siebs, and R. C. Wilcox (Secretary).

MINUTES.

The minutes of the previous meeting (held 6th December, 1898) were read and confirmed.

NEW MEMBER.

Messrs. Geo. R. Stevens & Co. have been elected to membership of the Chamber.

THE WORKING OF THE POST OFFICE.

Read letter from the Government dated 16th December, in which it was announced the Secretary of State had been requested by H.E. the Officer lately Administering the Government to appoint an experienced official from the English Post Office to fill the vacancy occurring in December by the retirement, on pension, of Mr. G. S. Northcote from the post of Assistant Postmaster-General, and that meantime everything possible would be done to prevent a recurrence of the irregularities complained of by the Chamber.

This letter had been acknowledged and copies of it had been supplied to the Press.

THE CHINA QUESTION AS AFFECTING COMMERCE.

Read letter received from the Liverpool Chamber of Commerce, dated 16th November, enclosing printed copy of a despatch on the above subject addressed by that body to the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and calling the special attention of the Chamber to the resolutions contained therein.

It was decided to acknowledge receipt of this letter and inform the Liverpool Chamber

that this Chamber had given the question their attention.

THE FUTURE FISCAL POLICY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A letter from the Singapore Chamber of Commerce, dated the 28th December, was next considered. The Singapore Chamber wished to know whether, in view of the annexation of the Philippine Islands by the United States, this Chamber proposed to make any representations in favour of the fiscal policy for those islands under the new régime being, as far as practicable, in the direction of Free Trade, how it intended to act, and suggested that the two Chambers should work in unison.

After some discussion, it was decided to address the Foreign Office, through the local Government, on the subject, and to inform the Singapore Chamber of the steps to be taken.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S MISSION.

Read reply from Lord Charles Beresford, dated Hankow, 4th December, in acknowledgment of a series of resolutions passed by the Committee at a special meeting held on the 19th November, 1898, and forwarded to his lordship with a covering letter on the 21st idem.

On the proposal of the Chairman it was decided to publish the resolutions referred to.

THE CHAMBER'S FINANCES.

The Secretary stated that the yearly accounts showed that the Chamber was in a flourishing financial condition.

Some other matters of minor interest were alluded to.

(Correspondence.)

THE CHINA QUESTION AS AFFECTING COMMERCE.

The Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool, Liverpool, 16th November, 1898.

Dear Sir,—I am directed to transmit (under separate cover) for the information of your Chamber, printed copy of letter on the above named subject, sent by this Chamber to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and am specially to call your attention to the resolutions therein contained.—I am, yours faithfully,

THOMAS H. BARKEE,
Secretary.

The Secretary, Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

The Incorporated Chamber of Commerce of Liverpool. The China Question as affecting Commerce. Copy of letter sent to Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on November 11th, 1898.

My Lord,—I am directed to inform you that a general meeting of the members of this Chamber was held here yesterday under the chairmanship of Mr. F. C. Danson, President, to hear addresses by Mr. R. A. Yerburgh, M.P., and others, on the above-named subject. The meeting was supported by several of the Members of Parliament for Liverpool, by many representatives of the Chamber of Commerce of South Lancashire and other districts, and by a very large body of representatives of the leading firms of this city.

At the conclusion of Mr. Yerburgh's address, the following resolution, previously considered and approved by the Council of this Chamber, was moved by him, seconded by the Lord Mayor of Liverpool, supported by Mr. Archibald Little and Sir John Wilcox, M.P., and unanimously adopted, viz.:—

Resolved—That this Chamber, recognising the immense field offered to British enterprise by the opening up of China and the development of its resources, trusts (1) that Her Majesty's Government will give every possible assistance to British merchants and capitalists who are engaged in business in that country, and prepared to invest money in it, and (2) that, especially in the matter of railway construction, Her Majesty's Government will secure for British enterprise in the Yangtze regions similar preferential rights to those which Germany, Russia, and France have already claimed in the regions of China which those powers respectively regard as their special spheres of influence; and the Chamber

assures Her Majesty's Government of its strenuous support in the pursuit of the policy thus indicated."

Further, as it has been announced in an Indian newspaper, viz., the *Pioneer*, of October 16th, that surveys for the extension of the Mandalay-Kunlon Railway in the direction of Chungking are about to be undertaken by the Government of India, it was moved by Mr. C. Poyntz Sanderson, seconded by Sir Richard Temple, supported by Mr. Charles McArthur, M.P., and

Resolved—"That this Chamber congratulates the Government of India on the commencement of the surveys for the Burmah-Yangtsze Railway, and hopes that the line will be carried through to Chungking."

A copy of this latter resolution will be sent to the Government of India, and, for your Lordship's information as to the progress of the Mandalay-Kunlon line, I beg to enclose a printed extract from the latest "Administration Report on the Railways in India for 1897-98."

I am to say in connection therewith that this Chamber has long pressed for the speedy completion of the Mandalay-Kunlon Railway, which it is hoped may furnish in the future an approach to the south-western and western provinces of China; in the absence of a railway through Siam and the Siamese Shan States to Yunnan, the Mandalay-Kunlon route seems that most likely to give access to the populous countries situated in the Upper Yangtsze basin.

This Chamber directs me to ask for the subjects of the resolutions your Lordship's most earnest and careful attention, and that you will consider them, together with your colleagues in Her Majesty's Government.—I have the honour to be, your Lordship's most humble and obedient servant.

THOMAS H. BARKER,
Secretary.

The most Honourable the Marquis of Salisbury, K.G., H.M. Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Foreign Office, London.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.
Hongkong, 11th January, 1899.

Dear Sir.—I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 16th November last transmitting copy of a dispatch addressed by your Chamber to His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on the China question as affecting commerce containing a series of resolutions on the subject.

I am directed to thank you for the opportunity afforded to this Chamber to learn the views of the Liverpool Chamber on the question, and to assure you that the subject has received the attention of my Committee.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,
Secretary.

Thos. H. Barker, Esq., Secretary, Liverpool Chamber of Commerce.

THE FUTURE FISCAL POLICY IN THE PHILIPPINES.

Chamber of Commerce,
Singapore, 13th December, 1898.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong.

Dear Sir.—I am directed by my committee to enquire whether, in view of the annexation of the Philippines by the United States of America, you propose making any representations in favour of the fiscal policy for those islands under the new régime being as far as practicable in the direction of Free Trade.

2.—My committee would be glad to be favoured with any information as to how you propose moving in the matter, so that we may endeavour to act with your Chamber.—Yours faithfully,

ALEX. JAS. GUNN, Secretary.

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S MISSION.

The following are the resolutions passed at the special meeting of the Committee, held on the 19th November last:

With reference to the mission of Lord Charles Beresford to China, this Chamber having considered the situation political and commercial, wish to record the following opinions and recommendations:

1.—In the interests of commerce it is vitally necessary that the position of the colony of Hongkong as the natural outlet and focus for the trade of the Two Kwang provinces should never be lost sight of in considering any claim to "spheres of influence" that may be put forward either now or in the future.

2.—Hongkong, through a line of railway connecting first with Canton and eventually with Hankow and her sister cities Wuchang and Hanyang, will be in a position to directly tap the very heart of commercial China.

3.—The trade of Hongkong, now roughly estimated at some fifty million sterling per annum, may, when the river ways of South China are opened and the railway to the Yangtsze Valley becomes an accomplished fact, reasonably be expected to expand immensely.

4.—The geographical situation of Hongkong, lying as it does half way between India and Japan, on the very borders of one of the most populous provinces of China and at the mouth of one of the greatest systems of inland navigation in Asia, is of supreme importance to British trade, and any scheme or policy that loses even partial sight of its unique advantages ought not to command itself to the attention of the British Government.

5.—That, however important the trade of the United Kingdom with Central China, it must not be forgotten that the key to British influence and prestige in the Far East reposes in the colony of Hongkong.

The Chamber therefore respectfully urge that while it is of the utmost importance to secure an "open door" for British and foreign trade in the Yangtsze Valley and in the North of China, it is imperative that:

a.—Trade throughout China should be freed from all inland imposts, one tax payable at the port of entry sufficing to frank goods to the consumer.

b.—That the dual system of Customs should be abolished, and a contribution to the provincial treasury be made out of the revenues of the Imperial Maritime Customs.

c.—In view of the lawless condition of the Two Kwang it should be strongly impressed on the Chinese Government that vigorous measures be promptly taken to put down brigandage and restore order throughout the provinces.

d.—That as part of the grand scheme for throwing open to foreign trade the entire waterways of China means be at once taken to secure the opening of the West River above Wuchow-fu and also the North and East Rivers along their entire navigable courses.

THE CRISIS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

A DEADLOCK.

Hongkong, 10th January.

That the relations between the Americans and the Filipinos are considerably strained has been evident for some time past, and the latest advices show that affairs are practically at a deadlock. As our readers will no doubt be aware, a number of U.S. troops were sent to Iloilo to take possession. On the vessels arriving in the Bay, however, and the Insurgents being requested to vacate their positions, the Insurgents declined to do this, and as General Miller, in whose charge the troops were sent, had no instructions to take possession by force nothing further was done. A telegram which Consul-General Wildman received on Saturday evening was to the effect that the American war-ships were still in the bay at Iloilo and the Insurgents still at their posts. This is a situation which cannot long be maintained. The announcement that the arrest of Aguinaldo has been ordered has naturally greatly excited the Filipinos.

Hongkong, 11th January.

At a sitting of the Congress of the Philippine Republic held at Malolos on the 3rd January the political programme of the new Government was read. After setting out that the authorities hold their power from the people, to whom they are responsible, and that it is their duty to respect the liberties proclaimed by the constitution and to obey the laws, the declaration makes the following reference to the United States:

"Particularly will the Council hold the great people of North America entitled to the sincere

gratitude of the Filipinos, and will study with true affection and the greatest care the means of conciliating the interests of the two peoples, so far as the definite establishment of the independence of the Philippines may render that possible."

Manila papers received yesterday publish the following proclamation by General Otis:

Office of the Military Governor of the Philippine Islands.

Manila, P. I., 4th January, 1899.

To the people of the Philippine Islands:

Instructions of His Excellency the President of the United States relative to the administration of affairs in the Philippine Islands have been transmitted to me by direction of The Honourable the Secretary of War, under date of December 28th, 1898. They direct me to publish and proclaim in the most public manner to the inhabitants of these islands that in the war against Spain the United States forces came here to destroy the power of that Nation and to give the blessings of peace and individual freedom to the Philippine people; that we are here as friends of the Philippines to protect them in their homes, their employments, their individual and religious liberty; that all persons who, either by active aid or honest endeavour co-operate with the Government of the United States to give effect to these beneficent purposes will receive the reward of its support and protection.

The President of the United States has assumed that the municipal laws of the country in respect to private rights and property and the repression of crime are to be considered as continuing in force, in so far as they may be applicable to a free people, and should be administered by the ordinary tribunals of justice, presided over by representatives of the people and those in thorough sympathy with them in their desires for good government; that the functions and duties connected with civil and municipal administration are to be performed by such officers as wish to accept the assistance of the United States, chosen in so far as it may be practicable from the inhabitants of the islands; that while the management of public property and revenues and the use of all public means of transportation are to be conducted under the Military authorities until such can be replaced by civil administration, all private property, whether of individuals or corporations, must be respected and protected. If private property be taken for Military uses it shall be paid for at a fair valuation in cash if possible, and when payment in cash is not practicable at the time, receipts therefor will be given to be taken up and liquidated as soon as cash becomes available. The ports of the Philippine Islands shall be open to the commerce of all foreign nations, and goods and merchandise not prohibited for military reasons by the Military Authorities shall be admitted upon payment of such duties and charges as shall be in force at the time of importation.

The President concludes his instructions in the following language:

"Finally, it should be the earnest and paramount aim of the Administration to win the confidence, respect, and affection of the inhabitants of the Philippines by insuring to them in every possible way the full measure of individual rights and liberty which is the heritage of a free people, and by proving to them that the mission of the United States is one of benevolent assimilation, which will substitute the mild sway of justice and right for arbitrary rule. In the fulfilment of this high mission, while upholding the temporary administration of affairs for the greatest good of the governed, there will be sedulously maintained the strong arm of authority to repress disturbance, and to overcome all obstacles to the bestowal of the blessings of good and stable government upon the people of the Philippine Islands."

From the tenor and substance of the above instructions of the President, I am fully of the opinion that it is the intention of the United States Government, while directing affairs generally, to appoint the representative men now forming the controlling element of the Philippines to civil positions of trust and responsibility, and it will be my aim to appoint thereto such Filipinos as may be acceptable to the supreme authorities at Washington.

It is also my belief that it is the intention of the United States Government to draw

from the Philippine people so much of the military force of the islands as possible and consistent with a free and well constituted government of the country, and it is my desire to inaugurate a policy of that character. I am also convinced that it is the intention of the United States Government to seek the establishment of a most liberal government for the islands, in which the people themselves shall have as full representation as the maintenance of order and law will permit, and which shall be susceptible of development on lines of increased representation and the bestowal of increased powers into a government as free and independent as is enjoyed by the most favoured provinces of the world.

It will be my constant endeavour to co-operate with the Philippine people, seeking the good of the country, and I invite their full confidence and aid.

E. S. OTIS,
Major General, U. S. Vols.,
Military Governor.

Hongkong, 12th January.
Reuter's correspondent at Manila, telegraphing on the 27th December, stated that the Filipino Congress at Malolos had adjourned, being unable to agree upon a Constitution, and the Cabinet had resigned; that Mabini, who is a bitter enemy of Aguinaldo, was forming a new Cabinet, and refused to release the Spanish prisoners, and that Aguinaldo, fearing assassination, had fled to the region at the back of Cavite. With reference to the latter statement, we are informed that the only foundation for it is that Aguinaldo went to Cavite to spend Christmas at his own home. He went quite openly and reviewed the troops on his way. Mabini, so far from being an enemy of Aguinaldo, has throughout been one of his warmest supporters. The recent Cabinet crisis was solved in accordance with the constitution and without any interruption of the machinery of Government. The change in the Cabinet does not in any way affect Aguinaldo's position as President of the Republic, any more than the position of the President of the French Republic is affected by a change of the Ministry.

HOSTILITIES BELIEVED TO BE IMMINENT.

Hongkong, 13th January.
Filipinos who arrived here yesterday report that when they left Manila the National Government had decided that in view of what is considered the unfair treatment received at the hands of the United States and the offensive nature of General Otis's proclamation any attempt at landing at Iloilo will be taken as an act of war on the part of the United States and in consequence fighting would (in event of the commitment of such act of war) commence simultaneously at Iloilo and Manila. Every preparation has been made by both sides for a desperate struggle, which may commence at any moment. The situation is unquestionably extremely critical.

The American authorities, we are informed, are exercising a strict censorship of telegrams both going to and sent out from Manila, and many messages have been impounded or held back by the U. S. officials.

Every train leaving Manila for Dagupan is reported to be crowded with Philippine non-combatants leaving for the provinces, and there are few females now remaining in the city.

Our informants also state that five or six-thousand additional American troops that were embarked at Manila for Iloilo were stopped before the vessels conveying them had left the bay and have been landed again. It is said that the prospect of operations against the Filipinos is not popular amongst the troops, who say they came to fight the Spaniards and not the natives. It will be remembered that this report comes from Filipino sources.

General Otis's proclamation appears to have caused particular resentment on account of its being published directly after the Filipinos had been celebrating the anniversary of the execution of Dr. Rizal, whose memory is revered as that of a national martyr. The anniversary received special observance this year on account

of the belief that the cause for which Rizal died had at last triumphed, but hardly had the celebration concluded ere General Otis's proclamation appeared and struck a direct blow at the national aspirations. Complaints are also made of the domineering conduct of the Americans in Manila and of the ill-usage sustained by hawkers and others at the hands of soldiers in the streets, though it is admitted that any cases of ill conduct brought to the notice of the authorities are equitably dealt with.

The following letters from our correspondent detail the course of events at Iloilo:—

FILIPINOS REFUSE AMERICAN DEMANDS.

Iloilo, 29th December.

The Filipinos held a meeting in Jaro last night at the headquarters of the Revolutionary Government, to consider the answer to be given to the Americans. It is believed they will maintain the stand that nothing can be done before communicating with Aguinaldo and receiving his orders. This morning the city authorities summoned the principal planters and foreign merchants to a meeting in the Government building, for the purpose of considering the port laws and commercial regulations. The officials called upon the foreigners to draw up a system of laws, tariff regulations, and duties, and promised to abide by and enforce them. However, nothing of importance was accomplished, as the foreigners cannot afford to recognize the native authority.

Three hundred and fifty additional soldiers came into town and went on duty this morning. The place is still very orderly and no violence of any kind is permitted. On the evening the natives took possession two men were seen to flourish knives in front of a house occupied by a half-caste family, in which the wife was Spanish. The guards arrested them and they were shot on the beach within half an hour. Last night a native Captain was driving near the Plaza about ten o'clock; his carriage was stopped and the horses taken to the police headquarters, where the Captain was fined for driving without lights. These are merely examples of the strict military law.

THE COMMITTEE CALLS ON GENERAL MILLER.

At five o'clock the committee called with an answer to General Miller's letter. The members were R. Melliza, V. Franco, C. Lopez, and Ramon Avancena, who stated, as was anticipated, that absolutely nothing could be done without communication with Aguinaldo. Their last orders were to hold the city, and they must be obeyed. They asked for more time, and were allowed until 12 to-morrow.

EXCITEMENT INCREASED. MORE SOLDIERS ARRIVE.

30th December.

Since before daylight, armed natives have been coming into town in a steady stream, and now, 10.30 a.m., fully two thousand soldiers armed with Remingtons and Mausers have taken possession of the fort, church, and government buildings; officers are scurrying about on their ponies, ammunition is being brought in from Jaro and Malo, and apparently a stout resistance is being provided for any landing attempted by the Americans. Stores and banks are closed and excitement is intense, although the best of order is maintained. A petition is being circulated by the foreign merchants addressed to General Miller, begging that hostilities be postponed until the natives can communicate with Aguinaldo, as if there should be a clash it would be followed by great loss of life and property. The plantations especially suffering. Outside of the city at the moment are nearly 10,000 Montanes and mixed natives armed with knives and spears; they are anxious to be allowed into the city. In Negros, a near by island, it is reported that some 20,000 men are in arms waiting for a call. Several half-castes and Spaniards have taken refuge in the house of Mr. Whaley, an American from Manila.

On the transports *Newport* and *Arizona* everything is in readiness for a landing this afternoon if necessary; the boats are all down and protected with two Gatlings and two Hotchkiss guns; stores and equipment have been packed. Colonel Potter has arrived from Manila with sealed orders that are understood to advise a quick and decisive treatment of the difficulty. As the time grows on to noon several foreigners

have come aboard the *Newport* with their petition and presented it to the General. As they leave the office the Filipino commission arrive in their launch. The committee has been changed since last night and the men now here represent the civil government. Their answer is simply a repetition of the previous replies. As an armed force the Americans were assured of resistance if any landing was made. As nothing more was to be said the committee returned to the city declaring themselves ready to meet any fate in defending their rights. One cannot help admiring them for their loyalty, at the same time pitying their poor judgment.

Colonel Potter immediately returned to Manila bearing the final answer of the Filipinos and the petition of the foreigners, which latter has great weight in causing the officers to defer violent action until the last resource is exhausted.

PREPARATIONS FOR RESISTANCE CONTINUE.

1st January.

Three schooners loaded with men entered the river last night. They were detected by the *Baltimore*'s search light, but were not interrupted. Hundreds of men are coming into town from the outlying districts, and to-day a number of the mountain natives got into the city for the first time. The authorities have previously been very successful in keeping them out at Molo; they present a very fantastic appearance in their red breeches and turbans set off with feathers, and are armed with long knives.

H. M. S. *Bonaventure* arrived from Manila yesterday bearing the telegraphic proclamation from President McKinley of the signing of the treaty, and also orders to proceed without delay to establish the sovereignty of the United States over the entire islands. To-day the proclamation was communicated to the native authorities, and it is expected to have a considerable influence for good. It is understood that the policy of the United States will be conciliatory to the last possible extreme and fighting is to be avoided if possible.

Mr. Balfour, manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, brought out the specie and treasure from the vaults to the *Newport* to-day, as he fears that the situation may become untenable.

To-night Messrs. Whaley, Johnson, and Charnet, who have been in Iloilo for the last three weeks, were warned to leave the town or their houses would be burned. This was done on account of their American sympathies. Mr. Whaley had just fitted out a hotel at considerable expense, but was obliged to abandon it; he does not anticipate any looting, unless the whole town should be destroyed.

Without a doubt every possible means are being employed to give a stout resistance, and the American officers are neglecting no particulars in planning the rapid capture of the city if the apparently inevitable should happen.

CONCILIATORY MEASURES AT AN END.

5th December.

The proclamation issued to the Filipinos by President McKinley has been translated and read to them and copies distributed. It was hoped that the message would be productive of good results, but it has been an absolute failure. They now ridicule the American "diplomacy," and stoutly adhere to their determination to hold the city and island.

Day and night preparations continue for a lively resistance, and every hour of the delay is made to count in throwing up works and barricading streets. Kerosine has been placed in the government buildings, the churches, and principal houses, and it is threatened that if the Filipinos meet with defeat the town will be burned. The servants have left their employers and warned them to get out of town, as they may be held and placed in exposed positions. Mr. Balfour, the manager of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, has transferred the treasure and specie to the *Newport* until the trouble shall be over. The other houses are also taking measures for the safety of goods. Furniture, stock, and household goods of every description have been taken out of town. The foreigners and many of the native families have taken refuge on the ships and their opposite island of Guimaras, where quite a

colony has sprung up. The natives as a rule have gone out to Jaro, on the mainland. Today the city is deserted, save for the soldiers, and flags of all nations fly from empty houses.

The American Vice-Consul, Mr. Chiene, and family have come to live on the *Newport*, the General's flagship.

The transport *Francisco Reyes* came in on Monday last with 550 Filipino soldiers, who were all wed to land without interference. Altogether 1,500 soldiers have been landed in this manner since our arrival, and this is not counting the hundreds that have come from other islands on schooners and small boats. Fully two thousand five hundred men with rifles are in the city; a German after a trip ashore estimated four thousand, but this is an exaggeration. On Tuesday some of the *Irene*'s crew went out for boat drill towed by a launch carrying, it is reported, some small guns. Their course lay along the front of the fort toward the mouth of the river, round a buoy, and back. Suddenly all the boats freed from the launch turned and started in the direction of the ship with all possible speed. On the beach were a number of armed Filipinos and others hurriedly coming out of the barracks. It is supposed that a Filipinos misconstrued the drill of the Germans.

The Spanish gunboat *Elcano* is still lying just off the fort, and it was reported around the fleet that some 2,000 stands of arms had been landed by her. The matter was investigated and found to be untrue, as a very close watch has been kept upon her by the *Baltimore*. The little iron steamer *Samar*, of Manila, has been impressed and fitted with two Hotchkiss 1.65 cm. guns and two Gatlings; she carries a guard of fifty infantrymen and should prove a valuable factor in the river fighting. In addition a large cases, or barge, has been seized, and its thick planking backed up by hemp bales will be an excellent battery. It is so large that two hundred men can easily be used to advantage; on this several 3.2 in. guns will probably be mounted.

Iloilo is located on a small island separated from the mainland by a river, and the country is such that by proper manipulation a body of troops the number of the expedition could be landed successfully and thrown out so as to cut off all chance of escape to the mountains. With the co-operation of the *Baltimore* and small gun-boats the problem would be very much simplified. Thus the whole native army could be bottled up in the city, where a severe defeat might be administered and the arms captured. If there is a fight the Americans will try to punish the natives very severely as on object lesson.

CONCILIATION IS IMPOSSIBLE.

Scarcely an officer in the expedition believes that the city of Iloilo can be occupied without a battle. The sooner this is realized by the authorities, the more speedy will be the settlement of the problem. The great mistake was made in not being able to come to Iloilo earlier; next it was a mistake not to have landed the very morning of the arrival of the expedition, when there could be no defence and the population was divided. Next, when the General had received orders allowing him to force if necessary the recognition of the sovereignty of the United States and the orders had gone through the ships, boats had been lowered and other preparations made, it was a mistake to consider the petition of a handful of foreigners who came off to the *Newport* in great haste and begged that the hostilities be postponed until the natives could communicate with their Generals. Boats were ordered on ship again, guards released, and everyone settled down to wait, while the foreigners' petition went to General Otis at Manila. War is war and private interests must sometimes suffer. Enough said on the subject, which could bear considerably more.

Every hour of delay is an hour of strength to the Filipinos, and worse than this, the state of semi-siege now existing is producing a feeling of ill-will bordering on hatred toward the Americans that will spread and grow into the interior, and such sentiment wants to be avoided at even great cost. Earlier in the game such a state could not have been possible if stern measures had been taken.

A local paper of the 31st ult. prints the following account of a meeting called to discuss the communication of General Miller:—"The President of the Revolutionary Government

read in a high voice the message of the Americans and asked the multitude, upon his resolution, to reply unanimously—We will not accept, we prefer to die fighting in the very bowels of the Filipino mountains against this domination."

Proclamations will not induce the Filipinos to permit American soldiers to occupy the city. Possession is nine tenths of the law, say the Filipinos; we have the city, we got it by fighting and agreement with Spain, we believe we can hold it and oppose anyone who may try to take it from us. If we are defeated we shall not go out until the town is burning. If the Americans want Iloilo they must fight.

6th December.

The *Petrel* arrived from Manila this morning accompanied by the steamer *Butuan*.

THE DEADLOCK IN THE PHILIPP. N. S.

A GROWL FROM AN EX-CONFEDERATE CAPTAIN.

To an outsider the present position of affairs in the Philippines is inexplicable. Outside Manila and Cavite the Island of Luzon is in the hands of Aguinaldo and his followers. Iloilo is also in possession of the Insurgents, while General Miller and the troops with which he was sent to occupy the town are cooped up in the transports anxiously waiting for orders. There may be justification for the Micawber-like policy of the United States with regard to the Philippines, but this justification is kept a profound secret by the officials, and consequently the enquiry has become general, "What in the world are they driving at?" Americans and other foreigners at Manila and Iloilo have begun to grumble, whilst the Spaniards and the natives, as might be expected, ascribe this inaction to weakness.

Among the passengers who arrived in Hongkong from Manila on Tuesday by the *Sunkiang* was Captain John McCafferty, a mining engineer from San Francisco. A native of Kentucky the Captain—notwithstanding the fact that he has almost reached the allotted span of life, that he served in the Confederate Army during the civil war, and that he has gone through some rough experiences in numerous expeditions against the Indians—is a hale old gentleman, with apparently many years of vigorous life before him. He went down to the Philippines about a couple of months ago with a view to seeing if there was anything in his line there, but the deadlock prevented him from doing anything, and he has returned to Hongkong, whence he purposes going across to the mainland to visit a certain mining property of which a countryman of his has charge. Captain McCafferty is by no means satisfied with the way things are being managed in the Archipelago, and the other day he freely unburdened himself to a representative of the *Daily Press*. Said he:

"On my arrival at Manila Consul Williams gave me a letter of introduction to Aguinaldo, with a view to my securing a pass from him to visit the mountain ranges and so forth. Aguinaldo, however, declined to give me one, ascribing as his reason that the country was very unsettled and that his relations with General Otis were unsatisfactory. I was at liberty to go where I pleased, but at my own risk, and of course this reply suggested to me the advisability of returning to Manila and awaiting further developments. On the 28th December I set sail for Iloilo, the same vessel—the *Elcano*—conveying several Spanish and Filipino passengers to the same place. The *Baltimore* and the *Charleston*, with the transports *Newport* and *Arizona*, had left for Iloilo two days before, so I fully expected to find the place in charge of General Miller and his troops. I was consequently greatly disappointed, if not humiliated, on seeing our soldier boys still boxed up in the transports.

"On our arrival our captain—a Filipino—boarded the *Baltimore* and asked permission to enter the port, but his request was refused. We, therefore, lay at anchor until the next morning, when General Miller directed our ship to enter provided the Insurgents do not object! Although advised not to do so, I visited several

of the Insurgent barracks, and I am satisfied that there were not 500 Insurgent soldiers in the town, and even they were poorly provided for. No matter what may be said to the contrary, I am confident that 500 Americans could have landed and taken the place without having fired a shot. There are no defences whatever, except the old Spanish forts, which could not have held more than 50 men, though there is a barracks near in which are about 100 troops.

"There may have been several thousand Insurgents in the foot-hills adjacent to Iloilo, but I am still curious to know how General Miller could have arrived at such a point as to ask the Insurgents for permission to occupy any place instead of disembarking and taking possession, after which he could have smilingly said, 'Como esta V?' ('How do you do?')

"The greater portion of the inhabitants of Iloilo have left for Manila and other places, it having been rumoured that as the Insurgents refused to allow them to take possession the Americans purposed bombarding and destroying the place. Therefore the non-combatants, more especially the Spanish element and also many Filipinos, retired, leaving the town practically deserted. There are a few foreign business men there, but business is practically at a standstill.

"After carefully examining the situation I feel as a loyal American exceedingly grieved over what I consider to be the blundering policy pursued by our commanding officers in Manila. I am satisfied that they have been mischievously misinformed, and thereby misled; otherwise they are incompetent.

"It was most humiliating upon my arrival at Iloilo to hear our Spanish passengers voicing with the Filipinos in their jeering observations, one which was frequently repeated being 'Muy valiente tropica' (meaning that the people of the tropics were very brave, i.e., they having prevented the Americans from landing and taking Iloilo).

"While I was going through Iloilo Englishmen and Germans were constantly remarking to me, 'What do you Americans mean? Why do you not land and take possession of the place; it is very funny?' Naturally I left Iloilo feeling exceedingly dissatisfied with the conditions existing there.

"On my arrival at Manila I deemed it my duty to call upon Carter Bell, A.D.C. to General Otis, believing I could furnish him with information which might be useful to the Commander-in-Chief. He requested me to call upon General Otis and this I reluctantly did. I had a long conversation with him, but when I left him I had the impression that he attached more value to the information furnished him by the Spanish General at one time in command at Iloilo than to that which I gave to him.

"During the interview I informed General Otis that I was about to call upon Aguinaldo and again ask him for a pass to enable me to go through the country, upon which the General replied, 'No American should ask a rebel for anything.' I then said, 'General, I see clearly that were I to attempt to go outside your lines and solicit the good will of the Filipinos it would be most displeasing to you. Therefore as a loyal American citizen it is my duty to do nothing which would displease our Commander-in-Chief. I have, therefore, nothing to do but to return home.' To this the General replied, 'I think you should.'

"I am now clearly of opinion that General Otis is not the man for the exalted position which he holds. If he were he would not allude directly or indirectly to Aguinaldo as a rebel. Even if he were it would not be policy for an American Governor to allude to him in such terms. But when General Otis refers to Aguinaldo as a rebel he uses a term which is not correct. Spain did not sell the inhabitants of the Islands. Internationally perhaps Spain may have had a legal right to dispose of the Philippines but she had no right, morally or legally, to sell the inhabitants to the United States or to any other country. Therefore Aguinaldo, though he may have legally been a rebel to the Government of Spain, should not be designated a rebel merely because he is unable to recognise the Government of the United

States any more than the Governments of Great Britain, Germany, or France.

"Everything is at a complete deadlock, and I claim that General Otis is entirely responsible for this. I believe that if Admiral Dewey and General Otis were to telegraph to Washington for permission to act as circumstances may direct they would get what they asked for. I have only to add that I deeply regret that our brilliant and immortal Dewey was not proclaimed military governor of the Philippine Islands. If he had been, I am satisfied that a far more satisfactory condition of things would exist.

"I may say in conclusion," said the Captain, "After having carefully examined the situation I think it my duty to warn all Americans seeking business opportunities to avoid the Philippine Islands until things become more settled. The mining element of the United States, more especially, should shun the Philippines."

THE PACIFICABLE.

A telegram of the 28th December in the Manila papers states that two powerful companies have been formed by American financiers with the object of securing from the United States Government a concession for laying a cable across the Pacific placing the United States in telegraphic communication with Hawaii, the Ladrone Islands, the Philippines, and, incidentally, China and Japan. One of the Companies has been organised by a group of New York capitalists, headed by the rich banker J. Pierpont Morgan, and is registered under the laws of the State of New York. The other Company is registered under the laws of the State of New Jersey and includes many well known financiers. Both Companies have command of unlimited capital, and public interest is much excited by the contest between the two and speculations as to which of them will gain the concession.

THE LOSS OF THE "GLENAVON."

MARINE ENQUIRY.

EVIDENCE OF CAPTAIN PITHIE.

A Marine Court was opened at the office of the Harbour Master on the 12th January to make enquiry respecting the circumstances connected with the loss of the British steamship *Glenavon*, official No. 84,305, of Glasgow, William Pithie, number of whose certificate is 0701, was master and commander. Commander R. Murray Rumsey, R.N., Stipendiary Magistrate, presided, and the other members of the Court were Staff Commander R. J. Rogers, R.N., H.M.S. *Tamar*; Mr. Rupert Archibald, master British steamship *Empress of China*; Mr. H. Mowatt, master British steamship *Athenian*; and Mr. W. A. Evans, master British steamship *Monmouthshire*.

The letter of Mr. William Pithie, of the *Glenavon*, applying for an enquiry, was read. The certificated officers have each been supplied with a copy of such letter.

The warrant constituting the court was read.

Captain Pithie said—My certificate was issued at Aberdeen in 1882. I have been in command of the *Glenavon* for two years. For two years before that I commanded the *Glenfalloch*. I left Hongkong at 5.25 p.m. on the 29th of December in the *Glenavon*, bound for London, with 3,300 tons of cargo. The draught of the ship was 22 feet aft and 20 feet forward. We had a full complement of crew and officers—55 all told. The ship was in proper and seaworthy condition. I passed Green Island at 5.54. The light was lit at that time. I set a course south 34 degrees west, making south 30 degrees west true. I gave four degrees variation westerly. The third officer was on the bridge at that time with me. After the course was set I pointed out to him Chung Island. There was a slight haze at the time. The lower part of the Island was obscured, but the hill was quite plain. I told him to look out and take a fore-point bearing of the Island. I left the bridge to verify the course. I found I was steering all right. I met the second officer in the chart room, and with him I then made up the chronometer rates. Then he went aft to his tea, and I had my tea in the chart room, so as

to be handy for the bridge. After I had finished the second officer reported to me that there were eight bags of mails on board. I told him, "All right," and went on to the bridge. I asked the third officer if Chung Island was abeam. He said not yet. I waited till he reported it abeam. It was then 6.34 p.m. I asked how long it had been on the fore-point bearing, and he replied nine minutes. I went down to the chart room to lay the position off and the fourth officer came to the chart room and reported one and a half miles as the distance given by the fore-point bearing off Chung Island. The fourth officer had been on the bridge with the third officer all the time. I went on to the bridge at 6.35 and found the chief officer in charge. He had had his tea and had gone to relieve the third officer. It was 6.34 when Chung Island was reported on the beam and I gave the order to starboard. Immediately after this I went on to the bridge. As soon as I got on to the bridge I gave the order to starboard. The chief officer repeated the order to the quarter-master at the wheel. I was then on the starboard side of the bridge looking for Ling Ting Island. I saw Ling Ting Is and right ahead as she was swinging under her starboard helm. I asked how her head was, and the chief officer said south one degree west. (Sir William Thompson's compass was in use.) I told him to steady her at south 15 degrees east by compass. There is little or no deviation in the southerly courses. When he reported her steady at south 15 east I saw that Ling Ting was well open on the starboard bow. I told him that this would take the ship well clear of all dangers and to keep a sharp look out for the Ling Ting rocks and to let me know if he saw them or if she was setting in at all. I also told him I was going down below to take my boots off as my feet were very sore. I went and took off my boots and socks and then went to look at the chart and laid off the beam bearing of Ling Ting on the chart, and shaped a course from that for the Gap Rock, assuming to pass Ling Ting two miles off. I then returned to the bridge and found the chief officer standing on the starboard side. This was about seven o'clock. I asked him if he had seen the rocks and he replied that he had seen them on the starboard beam. I remarked that it was very hazy and that we seemed close to the land, and he replied that he did not think so, as the haze was so very deceptive. I then asked him again if he was sure he had seen the rocks and he replied that he was quite sure he had seen them. I was looking for them myself on the starboard side but I could not see them. I looked ahead on the starboard side and saw all clear ahead and as the rocks were on the starboard beam I concluded we would go clear of everything. I then went to the midship part of the bridge to see how her head was, but before doing so I looked ahead on the port side and I saw Ling Ting rocks just open on the port bow. I gave the order hard aport, and jumped to the telegraph and gave the order "full speed astern." I looked to see if she would clear, but shortly afterwards she struck something with her bottom, but not the rock which I saw. She was going off and had got the rock abeam when she struck. I immediately gave the order to clear away the boats and save the passengers and mails. The passengers on board were one lady and child cabin passengers, 30 Chinese steerage passengers, and two distressed British seamen. The Chinese were the crew of the new Indo-China boat. I sent the carpenter forward to sound the forehold, and on his return he reported eight feet of water in the forehold. I stopped the engines to allow the boats to clear. I ordered the quarter-master to sound round the ship, and he found sixteen and seventeen fathoms all round. I sent for the chief officer and told him to stand by the ship, and send all the boats away except one. The boats were lowered and everybody got into them except myself, the chief officer, Quarter-master Smith (who was at the wheel), the second engineer, the lamp-trimmer, the second steward, two or three of the engine-room staff, and a few Chinese who were firing off rockets. The second steward went into a boat but he was frightened and returned. I sent for the engineer and the second engineer came. I told him to get the firemen out of the hold and keep two or three lands; that I was going to steam into shallow water as I was in hopes of getting the ship back to Hongkong. I put the engines ahead with the helm hard aport, but the ship was so much by the head that she would not steer, though I got her head round to north, so I had to give up the idea, and I put the engines full speed astern to get as close to the shore as possible, but I saw it was no use. The wind was blowing her right round. I sent for the chief officer and told him to collect everybody on the ship, take the remaining boat, lay off the ship and save himself. I ordered Quarter-master Smith off the bridge into the boat. Before he left he insisted on putting my life-belt on me. They both begged of me to leave the bridge and accompany them. I ordered them to go and save themselves and leave me alone. They left me on the bridge. I eventually found out they had not got into the boat, which I saw go away. I stopped on the bridge then till the water was coming over the forecastle head. I then walked down to the lower bridge and into the chart room and set my dog loose. Then I walked down to the lower deck and saw the boatswain and two Chinamen. I told them to jump overboard and save themselves. I then went into the saloon to see if there was anyone there. I found no one, but there were two bags of mails. I tried to get them out but they were too heavy for me. I came on deck again, and immediately the ship turned over on her starboard side and went down. I went down with her. On coming to the surface I saw the funnel disappearing. I saw a light and I struck out for it, but after about an hour I gave it up as I did not seem to get any nearer, so I made for the Island. Before reaching the Island I was getting very exhausted, when a sampan picked me up after I had been two hours in the water. I got those in the boat to let me have a look round, and eventually we came across Quarter-master Smith. There was still life in him and I tried to bring him round, but I was so bad myself that I could not do much for him. About an hour after we landed on Ling Ting. Afterwards I met the fourth engineer, the lamp-trimmer, and about 30 Chinese. In the morning we searched round the Island but could see nobody. Eventually the second engineer turned up. He had swam ashore. We left for Hongkong in a junk and arrived here in the afternoon.

By the Court—When we passed Green Island I think we were going ten knots. I estimated the speed by the revolutions—59. She had been going at that speed for about 15 minutes. I put her on full speed directly after clearing the fairway. Fifty-nine revolutions is not full speed, but that is the speed we generally go. I steered the ship on south 34 west. I steered her by the same compass they were steering by—Sir William Thompson's. The compass was last tested when I was up at Shanghai, four or five days before. We had put in Manila hemp cargo at Hongkong. I have gone out of Hongkong harbour many times before, having come out east for the last 15 years. I have invariably stood over to get within a mile and a half of Chung Island in preference to working down by Lamma Island. I set the course south 34 west after passing the Green Island light, because I laid it off the chart roughly before I left the island, and after setting the course I went into the chart room to verify it. The course was to take me down the mid-channel. I intended to run on that course until the east end of Cheung Island was abeam. From that point I lay off another course—south 15 degrees east. That would be two miles east of Ling Ting and a mile and a half off the Ling Ting rocks. I saw the third officer take the beam bearing, but not the bow bearing of Chung Island. He took it from the upper bridge, where we were steering from. I did not check the bearing by the compass. After she had run till Chung Island was abeam I went down to lay off the next course, south 15 degrees east. In the meantime she was running on a course south 34 degrees west. It was about half a minute from the time Chung Island was reported abeam to the time the course was altered to south 15 degrees east. When I told the chief officer to keep a look out for the rocks I calculated that there was light enough to see them about one mile off. At the speed we were going it would be 7.10 p.m. as far as I remember. I am perfectly sure the chief

officer told me he had seen the rocks, and that they were on the starboard beam. I concluded that he meant both rocks and not merely the first one. I accepted what he said as correct, but I could see nothing of the rocks myself. The land I thought I was so close to was Ling Ting. I went to see how her head was about this time but I did not see it, as my attention was taken off by seeing the rock on the port bow. The engines had been put astern before she struck, but her way was not taken off much. After she struck the engines continued going astern till she came off. I think she must have struck something near the collision bulk-head. The ship had a double bottom under the forehold. After she came off I went ahead and managed to turn her round, but could do no more. She must have gone down in close proximity to where she struck.

The Court then adjourned for tiffin.

After tiffin the examination of Captain Pithie was resumed.

In reply to Captain Rogers, witness said the only thing he would suggest as the cause of the casualty was the abnormal set to the westward. The ship was about 18 inches from her Plimsoll mark. He did not see Gap Rock light. The man at the wheel was a quarter-master and reliable.

Answering Captain Archibald he said the ship had four watertight compartments, and they were all closed. He did not see Gap Rock nor did he see Green Island at the time of striking. He took no bearing of Green Island light at any time.

In answer to Captain Mowatt, witness said he did not think any mistake was made in setting the course.

After his evidence had been read over to him witness expressed a desire to amend his statement with reference to Ling Ting bearing south one west when ahead. He now said that Ling Ting had nothing to do with it. He merely happened to ask how her head was without any reference to the relative position of the ship and the island.

George Robert Ainslie, third officer of the *Glenavon*, said he had held the post for nearly three years. He held a mate's certificate, which was issued to him in London last September. He had been in and out of Hongkong several times. He remembered leaving Hongkong on the 29th December. He was on the bridge with the captain when the ship left her buoy. The captain told him to take a four-point bearing of Chung Island and let him know when it was abeam, the distance in the log, and the time she had been on the bearing. The chart was not on the bridge where witness was. He had studied the chart before they left the buoy, so he knew which was Chung Island. He took the first bearing at 6.22 or 6.23, and took the second bearing at 6.31, or nine minutes after the first. About four minutes after he had taken the second bearing he was relieved by the chief officer. When he left the bridge he left the chief officer there only. The next thing of consequence he knew was that he heard the engine stop and go astern.

By Captain Rogers—It was dark passing Chung Island. Lantao was high behind it. He believed he saw Chung Island. He was positive he took Chung Island.

By Captain Evans—Before the captain left the bridge he told him to take a four-point bearing of Chung Island, but he did not point out the island to him.

By the Captain—It was 6.30 or 6.31 when Chung Island was abeam.

A. M. Morton, who was the fourth officer on the *Glenavon*, said he had been in her 14 months. He held a second mate's certificate issued in 1897. This was the fifth time he had been to Hongkong, as an officer on the bridge each time. He heard the captain say to the third officer, "Take a bearing of the island and let me know when it is abeam, and the distance off." The third officer took a bearing, but he did not know the time. It was 6.34 when the third officer took the second bearing.

The court was adjourned until the next day.

The enquiry was concluded on the 13th January. The captain's certificate was suspended for twelve months.

THE PAN'OMIME.

PERFORMANCE OF "THE YELLOW DWARF" BY THE HONGKONG AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB.

The long list of brilliant successes achieved by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club in pantomime and burlesque has perhaps led us to expect too much when a performance of that character is announced, and a feeling of disappointment is experienced if the result falls a little short of the high standard to which we have been accustomed. "The Yellow Dwarf, or Harlequin, the Knave of Hearts, and the Fair Princess," produced for the first time on Thursday night, 5th January, was a highly creditable performance, the spectacular effects being brilliant, the dancing excellent and the singing of the leading ladies very sweet and correct, but the plot seems to possess little of the familiar charm we are accustomed to associate with pantomime subjects, the dialogue lacks crispness, there are few topical allusions, and, in short, the element of humour is in short supply. While at former pantomimes the house was kept in roars of laughter there was seldom more than a gentle ripple on Thursday. Everyone present enjoyed himself, we believe, but not with that boisterousness that is permissible at a Christmas pantomime. Indeed, with such fine scenic effects and such exquisite dancing it would be impossible not to enjoy oneself. If the dainty little Queenie Lambert were to appear at one of the home theatres London would soon be in a state of infatuation with her. The ballets also, arranged with Mr. George Caldwell's well known skill, would do credit to any home theatre.

The plot of the piece is explained in the cast of characters as follows:—The King of Hearts in an absurd moment had proposed to and been accepted by the Queen of Hearts, his lawful wedded wife, a regular "Tart-er" and mother of Princess Alifair, their only child, a sweet young thing in short frocks who gave up playing with her dolly for the sake of the great Prince Dulcimar, or "Royal Mint," who woos and wins her despite the opposition of the Wicked Fairy, a horrid old cat whose cruel machinations in conjunction with her nephew the Yellow Dwarf, an ugly gnome (all yellow and nasty—ugh!), and aided by the Demon Cat, a grim liskin of the worst feline type, nearly spoil the magic spell of the Good Fairy, whose story about the Orange Grove almost compassed the death of the Knave of Hearts, an unfortunate and misguided youth in love with every girl he meets and with a special weakness for the Maid of Hearts, a dainty lass all "made" of hearts, who scorns him, thinking him better suited for the Kitchen Maid, a wild rabid creature who is entirely ignored by the Chamberlain, whose amorous duties compel him to keep a watchful eye on all the Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court housemaids, cooks, flunkies, heralds, pages, cats, monkeys, demons, and other furious and untamed animals. The cast was as follows:—

The King of Hearts, ... Mr. G. H. N. Sexton.

The Queen of Hearts, ... Mr. G. A. Caldwell.

Princess Alifair, ... Mrs. Fullerton.

Prince Dulcimar, ... Mr. F. P. Harold.

The Wicked Fairy, ... Mr. J. F. Noble.

The Yellow Dwarf, ... Mr. H. Seth.

The Demon Cat, ... Mr. M. D. Silas.

The Good Fairy, ... Miss Sayer.

The Knave of Hearts, ... Mr. E. P. Skrimshire.

The Maid of Hearts, ... Miss Murray-Bain.

The Kitchen Maid, ... Mr. H. S. Holmes.

The Chamberlain, ... Mr. Arthur Chapman.

Ladies and Gentlemen of the Court, etc. etc.

Mesdames A. d'Almada e Castro, M. d'Almada e Castro, Ida Armstrong, Elfrida Bohm, Olivia Bohm, Colcutt, A. Herbst, J. Herbst, Mabel Hendley, May Hendley, Ella King, Laetitia King, Lily King, Elsie Lang, Hilda Lang, Queenie Lambert, Logan, Claudia Mitchell, Mabel Parker, M. d'Almada Remedios, F. d'Almada Remedios, Mabel Sayer, Mabel Seth, Phyllis Seth, Skertchley, and Waterhouse.

Messrs. Aitken, H. Bain, J. Cumming, A. Chapman, J. Danby, H. Grant Smith, C. Hance, J. Hance, G. C. Hayward, C. B. Hayward, E. M. Hayward, E. Herbst, H. S. Holmes, C. Humphreys, E. Humphreys, B. Heaton, P. Heaton, H. Kennett, F. Lammert, H. A. Lam-

mert, L. Lammert, J. Logan, W. Nicholson, S. Seth, Sayer, Silas, R. Witchell, and J. Witchell.

Mr. Sexton as the King was amusing in his acting, and his singing and dancing were excellent, his song "Milord Sir Smith" being genuinely funny. Mr. Caldwell, needless to say, also raised many a laugh by his comicities as the Queen, but we have seen this clever actor to better advantage in other parts. Mrs. Fullerton made a charming Princess Alifair; her song "Cupid and I," from "The Serenade" (a piece which has been played in America but has not yet been produced in England) was charmingly rendered and enthusiastically encored. Mr. F. P. Harold made a handsome though rather unemotional Prince Dulcimar. The part of the Wicked Fairy found an able exponent in Mr. J. F. Noble, who appeared in various guises, first in the Fairy's proper character, afterwards dressed as a witch for a fancy dress ball, and finally as a Chinese coolie woman with a child on her back, and he was lively and entertaining in all of them. Mr. H. Seth was duly repulsive in the part of the Yellow Dwarf, and Mr. M. D. Silas as the Demon Cat did well all that was required of him. Miss Sayer in her few appearances as the Good Fairy made a most pleasing impression. Mr. E. P. Skrimshire, as the Knave of Hearts, ably impersonated the unfortunate, and misguided youth in love with every girl he met, though his love affairs did not seem to distress him very greatly. As the Maid of Hearts Miss Murray Bain looked the part and acted gracefully and her sweet rendering of the song "Kentucky Babe," with humming chorus, was one of the gems of the evening. Mr. H. S. Holmes as the Kitchen Maid did satisfactorily the little that fell to his share, and Mr. Arthur Chapman made an important looking Chamberlain.

The musical numbers introduced were: "A hot time," duet by the Dwarf and Wicked Fairy; "Kentucky Babe," song, by Miss Bain; "I am the Good King Dulcimar," song, by Mr. Harold and chorus; "Cupid and I," song from "The Serenade," by Mrs. Fullerton; "The typical tune of Zanzibar," a pretty quartette from "The Serenade," by the Princess, King, Queen, and Dulcimar; chorus of cooks, "The Tinkers' chorus" from "Robin Hood"; "Milord Sir Smith," song, by Mr. Sexton; duet "Don José of Seville," from "The Serenade," by Miss Bain, Mr. Sexton, and Mr. Caldwell, and the trio "Dreaming," from "The Serenade," by the King, Queen, and Wicked Fairy.

The marches and dances equalled if they did not excel those at any previous pantomime and were all loudly applauded. The principal ones were the Grand March of Coors and Housemaids, a garland ballet, a gavotte, and the item entered on the programme in compliment to the designer as "Grand Dance, The Georgieacaldwell," in all of which the movements were executed with the greatest precision and most charming effects were produced by the mingling of the colours of the numerous handsome costumes. In the sixth scene a pas de trois was given by Misses Hilda Lang, Lily King, and Phyllis Seth, a pas de deux by Misses M. and F. d'Almada Remedios, a pas de quatre by Misses Mabel Seth, Ella King, Maud Parker, and M. d'Almada, and a skirt dance by Miss Anita d'Almada e Castro; and in the eighth scene a pas de six by Misses Anita d'Almada e Castro, Minnie d'Almada e Castro, M. d'Almada e Remedios, F. d'Almada e Remedios, Mabel Sayer, and Mabel Seth. Too high praise cannot be accorded to these young ladies for their very graceful performance. The queen of the evening, however, as regards dancing, was little Queenie Lambert, a tiny mite who was carried into the nursery of the Princess as a mechanical doll and having been set on her feet and wound up proceeded to dance a pas seul. The same little lady danced a horn pipe in the harlequinade.

The scene of the harlequinade was laid in "Victoria Street, Kowloon," and the characters were:—Harlequin, Mr. Harold Seth; Columbine, Miss Mabel Seth; Policeman A, Mr. A. Chapman; Clown, Mr. Skrimshire; Pantaloons, Lieutenant Bannerman, R.E., Policeman 1000, Mr. E. Humphreys. One of the items introduced was a whistling solo with guitar accompaniment, a very clever performance, but it seemed not

quite in keeping with the harlequinade, the fun of which it interrupted.

"The Yellow Dwarf" has been arranged and adapted for the A.D.C. by Mr. E. W. Mitchell and the music has been arranged by Mr. G. P. Lammert and Mr. Tyrrell, Bandmaster of the King's Own Regiment. The stage manager is Mr. E. W. Mitchell, the acting manager Mr. H. C. Nicolle, and the musical director Mr. Tyrrell, K.O.R. The scenery has been designed and executed by Mr. H. W. Bird and assistants, the dances and marches have been arranged by Mr. G. A. Caldwell, and the dresses have been designed by "Miss Alias" and Messrs. Sexton and Noble. To all these gentlemen and the mysterious lady much credit is due, especially to Mr. E. W. Mitchell, who in his capacity of stage manager has had the lion's share of the work in organising the pantomime.

The orchestra was composed of Messrs. Sydney, Schroeter, Ruchwaldy, Rozario, and Stillington assisted, by kind permission of Colonel Rowlandson and Officers, by members of the Band of the King's Own Regiment.

9th January.

The second performance of "The Yellow Dwarf, or Harlequin, the Knave of Hearts, and the Fair Princess" was given in the Theatre Royal on Saturday evening by the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club, who had the honour of having among their audience T.R.H. Prince and Princess Henry of Prussia, H.E. Sir Henry Blake and Lady Blake, and Major-General and Mrs. Gascoigne. Everything having been got in thorough working order, the performance showed considerable improvement on that of the first night and was thoroughly appreciated. The applause was loud and frequent, and there were numerous recalls. Mr. Sexton as the King of Hearts was again in fine form, whilst little Queenie Lambert created quite a furore and left the stage loaded with flowers and presents. Several of the other ladies were also complimented by having bouquets presented to them. The third performance takes place to-night, the fourth on Wednesday, and the fifth on Saturday.

13th January

The Amateur Dramatic Club gave their fourth performance of the "Yellow Dwarf" at the Theatre Royal on Wednesday evening. The house was again crowded and many of the audience were only able to find standing room. The way in which the public flock to see each repetition is the best proof of the popularity of the pantomime, of the judgment shown in its selection, and of the success that has attended its production. The performers did not do themselves full justice on the first night, and the critics perhaps did not make sufficient allowance for the difficulties that had to be overcome. At all events there has been a marked improvement during the week and he would be a captious critic indeed who failed to confess himself satisfied with Wednesday evening's performance. All the actors were in excellent form and the applause and laughter on the part of the audience were continuous. Especial credit is due to the King (Mr. Sexton) and the Queen (Mr. G. Caldwell) inasmuch as the former was still suffering from his attack of fever while the latter had his left arm in a sling, "the result of our last little picnic" as he stated, the explanation being a sprained wrist sustained in the course of Monday evening's performance. Mr. Caldwell made use of his disability, however, to add to the humour of his impersonation, and as for Mr. Sexton, no one could have imagined, from his overflowing fun and comic antics, that he was not in the best of health. The two gentlemen named deserve credit for pluck as well as for their histrionic abilities. Special mention should be made of their topical duet "A very long time," in which new allusions were introduced. The subject of one of the verses was Lord Charles Beresford and the declaration that "Charlie is his country's pride" quite brought down the house, the sailors at the back being particularly demonstrative in their applause. Mrs. Fullerton as the Princess Alifair was charming alike in her appearance, her acting, and her singing; and Miss Murray Bain again gave a most pleasing representation of the Maid of Hearts and rendered the music of the part with great

purity and sweetness. Little Queenie Lambert, needless to say, received quite an ovation when she appeared in her dell dance and hornpipe. The final performance of the originally advertised series takes place to-morrow night, but an afternoon performance is advertised for the following Saturday, and we may hope that as in the case of previous pantomimes one or two extra performances will be given later on

THE TUNG WAH HOSPITAL.

THE NEW COMMITTEE INTRODUCED TO THE GOVERNOR.

In accordance with the annual custom, the new committee of the Tung Wah Hospital, together with the retiring committee, attended at Government House on 10th Jan. for the purpose of being presented to His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.). There were also present the Acting Colonial Secretary (the Hon. T. Sercombe Smith), the Acting Registrar General (Mr. J. Dyer Ball), Dr. Thomson, Viscount Suirdale, A.D.C., and Major Somerville (Private Secretary). Mr. Dyer Ball introduced the members of the committees to His Excellency, who shook hands with each of them.

Mr. FUNG WA CHUEN (a member of the old committee) said—Your Excellency, on behalf of the retiring Committee, I beg to thank your Excellency for receiving us here to-day. It is our duty to present ourselves and pay our respects to your Excellency after having served our term of one year. During our tenure of office several suggestions as to the improvement of the institution were adopted, and the conduct of the hospital has been well attended to under Dr. Thomson's careful supervision. At one time of the year we had the visitation of plague in the colony and a branch hospital was sanctioned by the Government. In this connection, valuable assistance was rendered us by Captain May in the discharge of our duties towards those of our fellow-countrymen who, unfortunately, happened to be attacked by this terrible disease. For this we owe a debt of gratitude to Mr. May, for without his help the task would have been much more difficult to us. The building of another mortuary at the recommendation of the Sanitary Board has been placed in the hands of our architect, although this will bear rather heavily on our limited finances. Now, Sir, it only remains for me to report to you that our duties have been transferred to the hands of the incoming committee, who I feel sure will be able to effect still further improvements in the management of the hospital. Once more I thank your Excellency for your kind reception.

Mr. HO TUNG (chairman of the new committee) said—Your Excellency, in taking over the duties of the retiring directors of the Tung Wah Hospital, I do not think the chairman of the committee has availed himself on every occasion of the opportunity to address the Governor. On the present occasion, however, I would beg your Excellency's permission to make a few remarks on this charitable institution. As your Excellency is well aware, the election of the board of directors of the Tung Wah is made exclusively by those Chinese who contribute annually to the funds of the hospital. The annual election is therefore not merely a purely formal function restricted to a few of the well-to-do or better-informed Chinese of the colony. Indeed, if it can be accepted as any criterion, it affords ample evidence that quite a large number of the Chinese in Hongkong evince an active interest in the institution. It may be a matter of satisfaction for your Excellency to know that quite 500 persons took part in the last election, all of whom exhibited an intelligent interest in the object and purpose of the election. We, the new directors, as well as the Chinese community of Hongkong at large, wish to express our sense of thankfulness to your Excellency for the early interest you have already shown in the institution we have just taken charge of. In spite of the multifarious duties which a Governor has to attend to soon after his arrival in the colony, your Excellency has made it possible to pay a visit to the hospital on Friday last. We hope to hear from your Excellency to-day that that visit revealed to your Excellency the nature of the work that has and is being done in the Tung Wah. We hope also

that the visit has been the means of disclosing to your Excellency any of the defects which your Excellency might be good enough to suggest to us the means of removing. Now as regards the past. When our present retiring directors were last year introduced to Sir William Robinson, before assuming the duties of the directorate, your predecessor was good enough to give them a few words of encouragement and advice with regard to the working of the Hospital. He enumerated several expedients whereby necessary reforms could be introduced and the usefulness of the institution increased; principal among these was the co-operation with Dr. Thomson who had been appointed visiting surgeon to the Hospital. I think I need hardly recall to your Excellency's mind the kind way in which Dr. Thomson reported to the Government the good relationship which exists between himself and the board of directors respecting the internal administration of the Hospital. The Chinese appreciate very fully the courteous manner Dr. Thomson has recorded his experience with the directors during 1897 and also his opinion that "the enlightened policy that is consistently guiding their action in their management of the Hospital is rapidly producing improvement of the institution on all sides of its work." The new directors can only hope that it will be their good fortune to conduct the affairs of the Hospital for the ensuing year with the same harmonious relation with its visiting Surgeon that has marked the initiation of the improvements following the recommendations of the Commission which in 1896 investigated and reported upon the working of the Tung Wah Hospital. And they rely upon your Excellency for the encouragement and support of the Government in all that will tend to promote the good object for which this beneficent institution was founded. Risen phoenix-like from the dead ashes of the "I. Lez," the Tung Wah, under very happy auspices, was formally opened on the 14th February, 1872. During the following year 581 patients were treated and 506 persons vaccinated. To-day, thanks to individual benevolence and the fostering care of this Government, the Hospital building has been considerably enlarged and during the year just closed it received for treatment no less than 2,898 in-patients besides 121,542 visits by out-patients, and was instrumental in having 1,583 persons vaccinated. Although the existence of the Tung Wah is justified by the large amount of good it has done and the alleviation of much physical suffering, I believe that it is still capable of further improvements; and what might appear as the barrier to progress arising from the ignorance or pardonable superstitions of the lower orders of the Chinese, the directors rely upon your Excellency's kind forbearance to endure, trusting to time for the better enlightenment of the ignorant class for whom the Tung Wah was especially founded.

His EXCELLENCE said—Gentlemen, I am happy to have the pleasure of meeting the directors of the Tung Wah Hospital, and I have listened to your address with great interest. The Tung Wah Hospital is the first institution that I have visited and I must apologise for having made that visit without due notice. But I was anxious to see the institution in its every day working condition rather than visiting it after a possible special preparation. I may say at once that so far as I could see, the cleanliness and regularity of the hospital left little to be desired, and reflected credit upon the directors and the medical staff of the charity. That such institutions as the Tung Wah Hospital and Dispensary, and the Po Leung Kuk should exist, afford ample evidence that the Chinese inhabitants of Hongkong possess in a high degree that most excellent gift of charity and tender solicitude for their suffering poor, and the ready response that your directors of last year have given to the recommendations of Sir William Robinson shows how willing you are to adopt improvements that have been suggested by trained medical men of large experience. I had read these suggestions before I visited the hospital and was gratified by seeing how much had been done. How widespread is the interest in the working of the charity is shown by the large number of 5,000 contributors who took part in the election of the directors for this year. I read with

especial pleasure of the good relations that exist between the directors, the Chinese medical staff, and Dr. Thomson, the visiting surgeon, whose exhaustive report shows how thoroughly and sympathetically he has done his work during the year. You are good enough to invite me to suggest means of removing defects which my inquiries and my visit of Friday last may have disclosed, and I have thought over the matter with a hearty desire to assist you as far as I can. The principal defect apparently is the structural condition of the Ko Fong Wards. Those wards, immediately below the level of the mortuary, are quite unsuited for the treatment of disease. I recommend you to remove them and to erect properly-ventilated wards instead. The accommodation for women patients is, I am informed, insufficient. It should be increased, and over the entire hospital it would be an improvement if a water carriage system recommended by Sir William Robinson last year could be adopted. These improvements will involve expenditure, but such expenditure is quite within the reach of the wealthy Chinese residents in Hongkong, who will, I hope, come forward and supplement the funds of the charity by increased contributions. For my part I am prepared to assist you on the part of the Government by granting a site on the resumed lands of Tarpingshan for the erection of the necessary wards when your Society has found the funds to build them, and for this purpose I hope that you will allow me to make a small beginning in the list of subscribers by a contribution of fifty dollars. (Applause.) My attention has been called to the apparent difference in the proportionate mortality of patients who have been treated by the Chinese and the European methods, the returns shewing results greatly in favour of the European method of treatment. I know how fallacious statistics may be if every factor be not taken into account, and I refrain from saying more on the subject than that it is worthy of your most careful consideration, remembering that the object of your society is to save life and alleviate suffering. I recognise the difficulty of securing that change that means progress and improvement among a people so tenacious of their customs as the Chinese; but with the intelligent leading gentlemen like you, progress may be steady, if slow, and I hope that each recurring year will show improvement in the working of the Tung Wah Society that so nobly holds out of the soft hand of charity for the relief of the destitute and the assuagement of the sick and the dying. Gentlemen, I am glad to have had the pleasure of meeting you, and I wish you every success in the coming year in the prosecution of your good work. (Applause).

Mr DYER BALL interpreted the speech into Chinese.

Mr. HO TUNG—Your Excellency, we have listened with very great attention to the remarks which your Excellency has so kindly made to us just now. We can assure your Excellency that nothing that can be done will be left undone to carry out your kind suggestions and good advice. We are well aware that, like most people, we are liable to make mistakes, and when we happen to have made such mistakes and when they are brought to our notice, we will not hesitate to come forward and frankly admit them, and do our best to have them rectified. We hope, however, that when we are brought to the recognition of our error, your Excellency will give us every allowance and consideration so that we may be still further encouraged to promote the interest of the Tung Wah Hospital to the best of our ability. In conclusion, allow me and my colleagues to thank your Excellency most heartily for the kind reception which you have accorded to us to-day. I think that all that now remains for us to do is to endeavour to do our utmost in the discharge of our duties as directors so as to justify our nomination by the Chinese community and the kind approval of your Excellency of our election.

The interview then ended.

The search for the body of Second Steward Wilson, of the Glenavon, has been fruitless, and all hope of recovering it has been abandoned.

WATER RETURN.

LEVEL AND STORAGE OF WATER IN RESERVOIRS ON THE 1ST JANUARY.

LEVEL.

	1898.	1899.
Tytam	3ft. 6in. below overflow	11ft. 9in. below overflow
Pokfulam	16in. above overflow	16ft. 7in. below overflow

STORAGE GALLONS.

	1898.	1899.
Tytam	356,250,000	292,300,000
Pokfulam	67,800,000	32,880,000

	1898.	1899.
Total	424,050,000	325,180,000

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN THE CITY OF VICTORIA AND HILL DISTRICT DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

	1897.	1898.
Consumption	83,850,000	98,241,000 gals.
Estimated population	192,500	198,000

	Consumption per head per day	14.1	16.9	gals.

CONSUMPTION OF WATER IN KOWLOON PENINSULA DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER.

	1897.	1898.
Consumption	6,79,000	6,914,000 gals.
Estimated population	25,200	26,400

	Consumption per head per day	7.8	8.4	gals.

ANALYST'S REPORT.

The Government Analyst reports that the water is of excellent quality.

R. D. OKMSBY,
Water Authority.

FOOTBALL.

SCOTLAND VERSUS THE WORLD.

The annual "Scotland versus The World" football match was played on Saturday, 7th Jan. on the ground of the Hongkong Football Club. Both teams were well represented, and a capital game was played. Scotland hitherto has held an unbroken record, and on Saturday its representatives again exhibited their superiority, winning the game by three goals to one. The players composing each team lined up as follows in their respective positions:—Scotland:—J. Burrell (Kowloon), goal; A. S. Anton (H.K.F.C.) and D. Dyer (Kowloon), backs; J. Smillie (Kowloon), G. Wilson (Kowloon), and R. K. Noble (H.M.S. Handy), halves; L. Kane (H.M.S. Victorious), E. Millar (H.M.S. Victorious), J. R. Greig (K.O.R.), D. Duncan (Kowloon), and E. F. MacKay (H.K.F.C.), Captain, forwards. World:—F. H. Kew (H.K.F.C.), goal; R. Wilcox (K.O.R.) and Bennett (K.O.R.), backs; W. H. Howard (H.K.F.C.), C. T. Kew (H.K.F.C.) and J. D. Danby (H.K.F.C.), halves; A. R. Lowe (H.K.F.C.), H. W. Looker (H.K.F.C.), Captain, W. A. L. Lethbridge (K.O.R.), Lawrence (K.O.R.), and W. Barlow (Kowloon), forwards.

Mr. Mayson, the referee, blew the whistle for the kick-off at 4.20, the World setting the ball in motion. Almost immediately it went into touch at the half-way line. Lawrence took possession from the throw in, but he was quickly relieved of the ball, and the Scotch rushed it close up to the World's goal, and, by a smart bit of play, Wilson headed it into the net, five minutes from the start. No sooner had the ball been restarted than the Whites again attacked the World's citadel, but the ball was kicked over the line. Another attack was relieved by Wilcox, and the leather was taken in close proximity to the Scotch goal, when Danby made an attempt to score, but the ball went over. The game waged fast up and down the ground, and the World's goal was eventually again put in jeopardy, but Wilcox was on hand to avert the danger threatened. Through Wilcox's relief, Lowe was enabled to get possession, and his speed enabled him to get close to the Scotch uprights, but before he could get in his kick, Dyer secured the ball, and put in a huge return. Wilson got hold of the ball and essayed a shot at goal, but the leather travelled high over the bar. Then an exchange of long shots was indulged in by Dyer and Bennett, the latter's side eventually getting the best of the play, enabling Lethbridge to get a shot at goal from a centre

by Lawrence, who was playing, at that time, a capital game on the left wing, but Lethbridge kicked wildly, and the ball sped over the line yards distant from the goal for which it was intended. For a time the World exhibited better combination, and pressed the Scots on to their sticks, but Dyer secured the leather and sent it out to Kane's wing; he tried hard to get away, but Wilcox opposed him and obtained possession of the ball, returning it well out of immediate danger. The Scots, however, were playing a good offensive game, and shortly after Wilcox had relieved the pressure Mackay got the ball at his toes and made a short dribble; he then made a long pass to Smillie, and that half sent the ball into the goal's mouth; Kew kicked out, but Kane rushed up and cleverly headed the ball into the net. Lawrence got possession from the re-start, and took the ball well up the field, but on centering Wilson gave a corner. Howard took the kick and put in a capital centre; a rush took place when the ball dropped, and it was rushed through, which made the score two goals to one. On starting again from the centre, Wilson secured and then disposed of the ball to Lawrence, but the latter was off-side, and a "free" was awarded the Scots. The advantage gained was little, for Wilson got possession and passed to Lowe. The flyer sped away and eluded all opposition, but his kick for goal was a poor one, and Lawrence added worse to it by making another bad attempt at putting the sphere into the right place. The game had been fast and furious, and the players showed signs of flagging. The end of the first half was approaching, and the world seemed to realise that fact, for they rallied, and for a time had the best of the play, the backs being particularly prominent. The ball was taken up and down the field at a fast rate, and the Scots had to act on the defensive. Lawrence got dangerously near the sticks, and looked like scoring, but Auton screwed into touch. From the throw-in he again got possession and dribbled out of danger, finally passing to Kane, who rushed away and centred to Duncan; the latter over-headed the ball to Mackay, who counter-passed to Greig, and he shot for goal, but the sphere just grazed the outside of the uprights—a good bit of play on the part of those who participated in the attempt to score. Once more the Scots pressed, but Wilcox and Bennett were not wanting, each putting in good work until lemon time, which was called shortly after, with the score standing: Scotland, two goals; The World, one. During this half, the side which had secured most goals certainly played the best game. The World's centre representatives played a little wild, and had it not been owing to the good play of Wilcox and Bennett, the Scots must certainly have added more goals to their already well-earned two.

On resuming, the first attack was made by the World upon the Scots' goal, and for several minutes play was confined in their division. Then the men from the land of kilts had a look in, and bombarded the World's stronghold in a decided attack, Duncan sending home a fast low shot. Kew, however, grandly saved, when Millar and Kane gained possession and renewed the bombardment. The ball was taken to the other end, however, through a relief by Bennett. But the combination of the Scots, especially on the part of Duncan and Mackay, enabled the whites to get close to the World's sticks, when Millar sent in a shot, which compelled Kew to run out from under the bar; he misjudged the flight of the ball, and Kane rushed up and did the needful. The effort of Kane's was a brilliant one, and thoroughly deserved its reward. A free kick was awarded the World for a foul, but the sphere found destination wide of the goal. Another attack, however, was more successful, and Burrell had to handle. Then the Scots got away and carried play into the World's quarters and panned them well around the goal, but their defence was strong, and the Scots failed to break through. Noble on the wing worried his opponent not a little, and continually prevented the ball from being sent out of jeopardy. The game at this stage was delayed on account of an injury to Kane's leg. At first it appeared as if he would be compelled to retire, but after a few minutes' delay he resumed his position. Immediately the ball was set in motion Millar and Noble combined, and the latter sent in an oblique

shot, which looked like going through; but Wilcox, as usual, was in the right place, and he kicked the ball out of danger into right touch. After several long exchanges and some uninteresting touch-line play, the Scots got the best of it and pressed their opponents closely, but Bennett came to the rescue. Still another attack was made by the Whites, and Duncan and Greig rushed for the ball, passed the opposing backs, and tried to score, but they were ruled off-side; had it been legitimate, Kew would have experienced a warm time in trying to save. The pressure by the Scots still continued, the World only occasionally getting a chance to threaten the opposite goal. In the next attack by the Scotchmen, Kane was conspicuous in an attempt to score, but just as he was about to shoot, he and Wilcox collided, and Kew cleared. In turn, the Scotch citadel was threatened, the outcome of the seige resulting in a corner to the World, off Noble. Lowe took the kick and centred well, but Wilson headed away. Smillie secured and sent the ball into touch in the World's twenty-five. An excellent bit of combination was exhibited at this stage of the game, Kane, Noble, Wilson, and MacKay being conspicuous, and the latter experienced "hard lines" in not scoring when he attempted to head the ball through. A few minutes later Mr. Mayson blew time, the game finishing with the score as stated.

The game was certainly a good one from beginning to end, and as far as the play was concerned, on the whole, none of the two thousand spectators could be otherwise than pleased with it. For the winners Burrell had very little to do under the bar; but what he did he did well. Anton and Dyer (backs) were not called upon so often as Wilcox and Bennett on the opposite side, but they acquitted themselves with great credit. Smillie, Wilson, and Noble, composing the half-back division, were a formidable trio, and their feeding of the forwards cannot be praised too highly. Of the forwards, Kane and Wilson were the stars. Of the two, perhaps Wilson worked the hardest, although he was not so successful as his colleague in scoring. Concerning the other three, Millar was the pick, for his play in conjunction with Kane, at times, was very smart. As we have before stated, the combination of the world's halves and forwards was not so good as that of the Scotch divisions. Howard, however, did some smart things, and occasionally Kew was noticeable. Lawrence, at the start of the game, did very well, but he fell off, and was somewhat a failure. The halves and forwards certainly made a mistake in passing so often to him instead of to Lowe. The last named played a brilliant game, and when he was able to get in a sprint, it was really a treat to witness it. Lethbridge played a very good game; but that exhibited by Looker and Barlow was only of a mediocre character. Considering the many attacks of the Scots, Kew did well between the sticks, and he cannot be upbraided on account of the three balls which he allowed to pass him, for they were difficult to save. Mr. W. D. Mayson appeared to give great satisfaction as wielder and blower of the whistle.

At the Magistracy on 11th Jan. Commander Hastings held an enquiry into the circumstances attending the death of the China woman Ng Kam Tau, who was found in her room at 27, Queen's Road West, on Tuesday morning with her throat cut. It appears that she was the concubine of a rice dealer, who resides in the same house with his wife and two children. He told Commander Hastings that deceased had not been well for some time and had been attended by Chinese doctors for several years. It was at her request that the family removed from Chui Chow to Hongkong, and while here Dr. Chung, of the Tung Wah Hospital, had attended her. At about half-past two on Tuesday morning the husband, who was sleeping in an adjoining room, was awakened by an amah, and in consequence of what she said he went into the room of deceased and found her lying in bed with her throat cut. He did not see any razor about, but he recognised a razor produced as deceased's. Dr. Thomson, who had examined the body, said the position of the wound pointed to suicide, and a verdict to this effect was returned.

CRICKET.

A SCRATCH TEAM OF THE H.K.C.C. V. VICTORIA RE-CREATION CLUB.

This match was played on Saturday and resulted in an easy victory for the Cricket Club. The following are the scores:—

H.K.C.C.	
H. Reinold, R.N., c H. A. Lammert, b Machado	120
A. E. Wood, R.N., b Tuohy	0
Dr. F. H. Nimmo, R.N., c Oolie, b F. Lammert	124
Dr. Stewart, R.N., b F. Lammert	0
Dr. L. E. Durnell, R.N., b. w., F. Lammert	2
Thomson, R.A., b F. Lammert	11
A. Anderson, b F. Lammert	1
R. J. Gerrard, c H. Kew, b F. Lammert	10
A. Mackenzie, c Hyndman, b Machado	3
H. R. Godfrey, R.N., c and b Tuohy	0
H. Grant Smith, not out	2
Extras	14
Total	287

VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.	
F. H. Kew, b Mackenzie	0
G. T. Kew, b Mackenzie	3
J. Carvalho, b Nimmo	0
L. Rose, c Reinold, b Mackenzie	8
G. Tuohy, b Nimmo	2
F. Lammert, run out	4
H. A. Lammert, b Mackenzie	2
J. Machado, b Reinold	14
L. Brett, b Mackenzie	0
P. Hyndman, run out	8
J. Mody, not out	8
Extras	1
Total	50

H.M.S. VICTORIOUS V. H.M.S. IMMORTALITE.

Teams from the above men-of-war met on Saturday, on the Happy Valley recreation ground to try conclusions with the willow. The day was beautifully fine, and the pitch fast, but a little lumpy. So far as merit is concerned, the *Victorius* cannot put as good a cricket team upon the field as it can a football eleven, and on Saturday the willow wielders suffered a heavy defeat. The *Victorius* players went to the wickets first, but made a very poor show. Against the bowling of Samuels the wickets fell fast, and seven went down for a fraction under four runs each. Samuels secured the eighth wicket for the addition of only one run to the score, and also spread-eagled Palmer's stumps with a good length ball. Copeland went in to bat, and opened his score with a single; but a few minutes later the innings was brought to a close, Copeland hitting his wicket whilst trying to play a ball of Samuels'. The score for the ten wickets was 30, just three runs each.

For the *Immortalite*. Coarse and Austin opened the batting to the bowling of Stewart and Dadd. Coarse started the scoring with a good cut off Stewart for four, and followed this with an off drive for two. Austin opened his account with a hit to square leg for four, which caused 10 to be posted. Another four and a three were quickly added, when Austin succumbed to a ball from Stewart —1 for 17. Lightfoot filled the vacancy at the crease, and Coarse opened the partnership with a long drive for 6, sending 20 up on the board. Lightfoot skied a ball, which should have been caught, but no-one was there to receive it, and the batsman escaped with a life. Two more runs were added, which put the *Immortalite* team one run ahead of the *Victorius* total. Coarse and Lightfoot collared the rather indifferent bowling, and they hit the leather in all directions, soon sending up 40. The fielding was far from brilliant, and in three overs Lightfoot was missed no less than three times. Fifty, sixty, and seventy were hoisted in quick succession, and no separation was effected until Smith took the ball from Stewart. The change proved effective, the new bowler capturing Lightfoot's wicket after that batsman had scored 33—2 for 86. The outgoing player should have been caught no less than four times, and nothing but bad fielding gave him so many lives. Brooman's partnership with Coarse was short-lived, and Smith sent him back with a score of four only—3 for 96. Sinclair then went to the wicket, but was immediately bowled by Smith. Samuels was the next to partner Coarse, and the two carried the score to 111, when Lightfoot, the captain, declared the innings closed. The *Immortalite* therefore won an easy victory by 6 wickets and 81 runs. The most successful

bowler was Samuels, who captured seven wickets. Coarse secured batting honours, being 55, not out.

Following are the players and scores:—

H.M.S. "VICTORIOUS."	
Ferguson, b Samuels	4
White, c and b Samuels	11
Smith, c Lightfoot, b Coarse	0
Dadd, b Samuels	2
Stewart, c Coarse, b Samuels	2
May, not out	1
Roxburgh, b Coarse	0
Starkey, c Lightfoot, b Samuels	7
Schofield, b Samuels	1
Palmer, b Samuels	0
Copeland, hit wicket	2
Total	30

H.M.S. "IMMORTALITE."	
Coarse, not out	55
Austin, b Stewart	4
Lightfoot, b Smith	33
Brooman, b Smith	4
Sinclair, b Smith	0
Samuels, not out	8
Price,	
Crook,	
Eaton,	
Taylor,	
Selwood,	
Extras	7
Total	111

ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

FINAL RACES FOR THE COMMODORE'S CUPS.

On Saturday the final races in the above competition took place in a fine easterly-breeze of whole sail, and at times a little more than whole sail, strength. The course was, round Meyer's East Buoy, Kowloon Rock, Meyer's buoy, and Channel Rocks, about 9 miles. In the first class the Bonito shewed good form on the wind, but was deprived of victory by the Erica on the post. The Erica shewed marvellous speed running home from Channel Rocks. She covered the distance at a speed of over 8 knots an hour. The times of rounding Meyer's buoy the second time and Channel Rocks were as follows:—

	Meyer's Buoy.	Channel Rocks.
Bonito	3 11 30	3 36 0
Erica	3 12 30	3 33 30
Maid Marian	3 14 0	3 41 0
Chanticleer	3 15 0	3 40 45

In the second class the Princess (a boat designed by Mr. Cooke) shewed much improved form and gained a most meritorious victory over her formidable antagonists.

The times of finishing were:—

	A class.	B class.
Erica	4 1 15	Princess 4 22 11
Bonito	4 1 22	Payne 4 23 51
Chanticleer	4 4 25	Ladybird 4 31 2
Maid Marian	4 5 14	Dart 4 40 18
		She 4 42 9

The Erica took the cup in the first class with two firsts and one second in the three races, and the She took the cup in the second class with one first, one second, and one third place.

THE ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB.

CAPTAIN'S CUP AND SILVER MEDAL.

FOR JANUARY.

The entries for the above competition were well up to the average, and the "wins" have again gone to long-handicap men, who in the present dry state of the links and keen nature of the putting greens have a considerable advantage over their less favoured opponents. We regretted to notice on one of the days of the competition, both morning and afternoon, the very marked loitering through the green and on the putting greens of one couple; the round of 18 holes should in an ordinary way be readily accomplished in 1½ hours whereas in the case referred to it took fully 2½ hours to complete. This is rather disconcerting to couples coming up behind, and gives rise to spoilt temper and spoilt game.

Following are the returns sent in:—

	CAPTAIN'S CUP.
Mr. R. H. Hill	97 16 81
Mr. G. Stewart	86 3 88
Mr. E. J. Grist	108 24 84
Mr. W. A. L. Lethbridge	94 8 86
Mr. G. Millward	97 11 86

Capt. E. Burnie	106	18	88
Mr. E. F. Mackay	99	11	88
Mr. C. A. Tomes	102	8	94
Mr. H. W. Robertson	107	10	94

25 entries.

POOL.

Surg. N. J. Smith, R.N.	100	18	82
Mr. R. H. Hill	99	16	83
Mr. G. Stewart	86	3	83
Mr. E. Burnie	103	18	85
Lt. Perry Ayscough, R.N.	100	13	87
Mr. E. F. Mackay	99	11	88
Mr. C. A. Tomes	102	8	94

19 entries.

The quarterly meeting for the "MacEwen" cup will be held from 13th to 16th inst.

THE WANCHAI WAREHOUSE AND STORAGE CO., LIMITED.

The following is the report for presentation to the shareholders at the eighth ordinary annual meeting, to be held at the offices of the General Managers at 3 p.m. on Monday, 16th January:-

The General Managers beg to submit to the shareholders their report on the working of the company, with a statement of accounts, for the year ended 31st of December, 1898.

In the same way as in the previous years in interim dividend at the rate of \$1.50 per share was paid on the 9th July out of the half-yearly rental from the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited. The balance now at credit of profit and loss account, including the balance of \$348.21 from last year, amounts to \$4,287.18. After providing for the final dividend at the above rate, absorbing \$3,900.00, there remains a small surplus of \$387.18, which it is recommended to carry forward to new profit and loss account.

AUDITOR.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson, whose re-election is recommended.

MEYER & CO., General Managers.

Hongkong, 10th January, 1899.

LIABILITIES AND ASSETS, 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.		
To capital account	2,600 shares at \$100,	\$ 0.
of which \$37.50 paid up		97,500.00
To mortgages of	140,000.00	
To mortgages of	20,000.00	
	160,000.00	
To dividend account		:32.50
To reserve fund		2,500.00
To balance of profit and loss account		4,287.8
		\$264,519.68

By Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	\$ 0.
	4,5 9.68
By property account	260,000.00

\$264,519.68

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1898.		
By balance of 1897		\$ 0.
By net rent for premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company for 1st Semester, 1898		4,150.00
By net rent for premises of the Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company for 2nd Semester, 1898		4,150.00
By transfer fees of 1898		3.00
By interest account, 1898		25.97
		\$8,687.18

To interim dividend paid for 1st Semester, 1898	\$ 0.
	3,900.00
To commission to General Managers for 1898	500.00
To net profit	4,287.18

\$8,687.18

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

We have received the following report from the General Managers of work done during the month of November, 1898.

EUREKA MINE "A" SHAFT.

150 foot level North.—This drive has been extended to a distance of 212 feet. Good stone—the best Mr. Ogelthorpe has yet seen in the mine—has been met with. For some distance the drive has been driven on the hanging wall, which underlies very fast at 145 feet. A cross cut has been made, which is almost perpendi-

cular, as shown on plan. The reef is 20 inches wide.

300 foot level North—Distance driven at end of month 145 feet. The reef at this point is 9 feet wide, but of low grade. By driving another 30 feet and putting up a rise 10 or 15 feet a decided improvement should take place.

Intermediate drives North and South below the 200 foot level.—Continue to supply a large quantity of fair grade ore. The drives have been extended to distances of 106 and 73 feet respectively and the stopes above look fairly well.

EUREKA MINE "B" SHAFT.

126 foot level North.—A chamber has been cut 10 feet long, 1½ feet wide, and 9 feet high, bearers put in, and the timbering of shaft and permanent ladder-way completed from the surface to chamber. A cross-cut drive has been started to cut reef, the distance driven being 15 feet. It is expected that the reef will be cut at 80 to 90 feet from the shaft.

BATTERY.

Is in good working order after the half yearly overhaul of the previous month. The mill ran 28 days, crushing 771 tons of stone for a yield of 325 ozs. 2 dwts. of retorted gold, or approximately 8½ dwts. per ton.

The General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, inform us that they have received the following telegram from the mines:—"150 ft. North level is looking well. The annual clean up of the copper plates yielded 215 ozs of gold." The General Managers further inform us that this yield added to the result of the three weeks' crushing during December makes the aggregate output of gold for that month 416 ozs. valued at £1,600.

QUEEN MINES, LIMITED.

Messrs. John D. Humphreys & Son, the General Managers, have sent us the following report:-

Queen of the Mount Mine, Main Shaft.—After getting the engine to work and pumping the water out the shaft has been timbered and chambers cut on the east and west sides. Drives from these will be pushed on as speedily as possible to intersect the reefs.

Balmoral Mine.—A tribute had been let to Cuth and Wood before Mr. Jupp's arrival. An agreement has now been signed by which the Company get 5 per cent. of all gold won free of all charges. At the time the tribute was let it was a case of having the lease jumped or arranging the tribute on these terms. The tributaries at the present time are getting out very good stone and have about ten tons at grass which they expect to yield 5 ozs. to the ton or more. The men on Peel and Brown's tribute, as a result of six months' work, got five tons of stone which, crushed in the Olivers Battery, gave a yield of 7½ ozs. These men have given up work.

GREAT EASTERN AND CALIFORNIAN GOLD MINING COMPANY, LIMITED.

The following report has been received from the Manager of the mines:-

Since my last report, the following work has been done:-

Great Eastern Mine.—The leading stope north has been carried 18 feet, with the reef showing 3 feet 6 inches in the face. The same stope south is in 12 feet with the reef at present only 15 inches wide. The rise is up 21 feet and 6 inches. Stone raised so far about 200 tons, and some of the stuff coming up shows good gold.

Zulu Mine.—We had to stop the drive south owing to a rush of water from the hanging wall, where we cut a soft formation, which will probably bring us on to a new block of stone. The reef in the end of the drive is small, but shows gold freely. The leading stope south is in 30 feet, the second stope in 13 feet, and the third in 6 feet. The leading stope north is in 30 feet and the second and third stope here in about 22 feet. The reef varies in size, but a correct average would be 1 foot. We are raising fine stone. The direction of the chute of ore we have been working on so far both north and south is south 50 degrees west, and

north about 50 degrees east, and as long as the reef is cutting across the country it is very rich. Where we stopped driving in the north end, the reef is running with the country almost due north and south, and that probably caused it to be poor there, or it may be a cross reef which has cut the other one off, same as we have passed in the south end at about 30 feet. Here, however, the reef seems to have retained its richness, and we shall soon know more about it, as well as about the soft formation in the end of the drive. There is without the slightest doubt a perfect network of veins, as so many chutes have been worked on the top, and with greater depth we may expect all these veins forming a large lode. Quantity raised about 250 tons.

Rise and Shine Mine.—This had to be stopped owing to foul air, the shaft being only a small one; there is not sufficient draft to carry air down in this hot weather, with all the old timber below being exposed.

Bank of England Mine.—The slope has been carried up about 12 feet and been carried along about 16 feet. In the northern end the reef is about 4 feet wide, whilst it is getting very narrow in the south end of the stope. The stone we raise from here is good average stuff. I have started the contractors on the rich cross-reef north, which is 18 inches wide under foot. The total quantity raised here so far is 450 tons. Of course it is difficult to judge a heap exactly, and all the quantities mentioned must be taken as about.

C RRE PONENT.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

LORD CHARLES BERESFORD'S SPEECH TO THE HONGKONG CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—Now that the public have had time to digest Lord Charles Beresford's speech to the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce and, it is to be hoped, recovered from the delirious way in which everything he said and did was voted to be the very thing wanted to set matters in the Far East right, revivify the Chinese Sick Man, establish a strong Chinese Empire, boom trade, etc., I will, at the risk of standing alone with such views, give the opinions of one who has resided for nearly twenty years in China and had exceptional opportunities of studying China and the China question, opinions which are totally opposed to Lord Charles's conclusions as to what policy should from henceforth be followed by the British Government in its dealings with the Chinese question.

To begin with Lord Charles himself, before proceeding to discuss his speech and finally advance counter proposals to those put forward by him. Lord Charles first came prominently into notice at the bombardment of Alexandria, having acquitted himself with great credit in gallantly taking his small vessel close in under the forts and hotly engaging them. This, rightly, established him as a public favourite and he has maintained his position as such by further acts of dash and a wonderfully magnetic personality. He crowned all by throwing up a Cabinet Ministership when he found that the Naval Budget which he submitted, as necessary for placing our first line of offence and defence in a fit and proper condition to do its work effectively, was thrown out by his colleagues; and on appealing to the patriotism of the country for support he was able to carry all before him. He then took up the organization of the Navy League, and his energy, popularity, and powerful personality enabled him to make that the great success it has been, to the lasting benefit of Great and Greater Britain and the world at large.

With such a record of loyal work for his country and countrymen it will seem ungracious to attack his programme and to say unkind things of it and his fellow provincials from Ireland, but if your readers think so I hope they will realize that the motive is to prevent the further sacrifice of British interests by the adoption of a foolish policy, to prevent a gigantic war between the national Goliaths of the world, and to hasten a peaceful solution of the

China question. The danger of Lord Charles's great influence and magnetic personality drawing the heart of his countrymen after him to the total exclusion of the dictates of their head—a trite saying is that "men are led by their hearts rather than by their heads"—is so great that I take it as ample excuse for what follows.

Lord Charles repeatedly calls attention to the fact that he is Irish, and even did he not do so the obvious inconsistency he is guilty of in his speeches would point to that fact. I must, therefore, point out the unpleasant fact that the present distressful state of affairs in the Far East is due to Irishmen. Three notable Irishmen—Sir Thomas Wade, Sir Robert Hart, and Sir Halliday Macartney—are entirely responsible for misleading Great Britain into treating the haughty, pretentious, arrogant, overbearing, ignorant Chinese Government as a civilized state, and inducing her, on the one hand, to cease that wholesome coercion which she exercised when occasion arose, and China, on the other hand, to advance extravagant pretensions as to her right to be treated with punctilious consideration whilst she habitually ignored the just rights of British merchants and missionaries. Since our last China war up to the present date one or all of these three men have dictated British weakness in the Far East and China's aggression, with what consequences to trade and to China's present humiliation events have amply shewn. At the present time we have local evidence of this in the impudent attempt to establish a Chinese Custom House, and subsidiary stations, in the heart of this colony, with all sorts of oppressive powers, and the British Government only prevented from weakly consenting to the obnoxious arrangement owing to the outcry raised by the colonists.

Fortunately Lord Charles admits that he knows very little about China, even after his tour. Another speaker, following him, a very old resident in the Far East, points out that Sir Thomas Wade after forty years in China admitted knowing nothing of the country. As Sir Thomas Wade's policy is responsible for the present mess China affairs have got into we can accept the statement as perfectly accurate, notwithstanding the fact that he had an intimate knowledge of the Chinese language and written character.

Continuing, Lord Charles Beresford proceeds to say that having visited every British community in China they all express an opinion that something must be done; then he agrees with them in that opinion and proceeds to infer that he has a definite policy to propound, but after much garrulous wandering from the point—garrulosity, to coin a word, is alike characteristic of the Irish and Chinese races and possibly together with plausibility is one of the many causes for their mutual affinity—he fails to propound his policy further than to say that he believes that "the door can be kept open" (which, by the way, is a variously defined idea) by some sort of arrangement between England, America, Germany, and Japan. Two of these countries are great on tariffs at home and the third well on the road to a similar policy, yet Lord Charles with child-like faith supposes that an offensive and defensive alliance can be arranged with them to draw British goods into China; the innocent Celestial of course will render every facility for effecting that desirable object. No, Lord Charles, we know better than that; it won't work. You will have to try again.

He then pays Sir Claude MacDonald a well deserved compliment and rightly points out that it is not him but the Cabinet at home who must be censured for muddling China affairs.

Proceeding, he now touches on the crux of the whole question, Russia's actions and intentions, and here he sadly blunders, as those who have coached him in this matter have blundered. Russia, he points out, has occupied Manchuria with intent to establish herself there, and after complimenting Russia for doing so and adding that had he been a Russian he would already have occupied Peking, he proceeds to say that he thinks it a great mistake to irritate her; and then comes his chief inconsistency, for he raises objections to Russia seeing to it that a railway running into what is her undoubted sphere of influence is not mortgaged to British capitalists and infers that the British Government should

make a display of force to secure that British finger pushed into the Russian pie. To place matters simply and plainly, Russia means to have a sphere of influence embracing all territory to the north of Shantung—in that she is perfectly right—and she does not care what the British or anyone else think of it, for she is perfectly capable of maintaining herself in that area, in spite of all the warships which Britain possesses and dozens of Beresfords bad we them. Indeed, for what else is she building the Siberian railway? Has not the British Government tacitly approved of it, and very wisely too? Russia can easily see that the attempt to secure the Shantung Railway to British capitalists was an attempt to bar her out of her heritage, and she knows who engineered it; she promptly nipped it in the bud. Would that the British had been as wise as regards the Hankow-Peking line! It is probably not yet too late.

Following his first fling at Russia he has another try at irritating her by raising objections to her wisely ignoring the Chinese Customs in the matter of landing her railway material. Newchwang only temporarily remains a Chinese port on the sufferance of Russia. Why object to the inevitable?

Then follows another inconsistency. He says there is no trade in the country occupied by Russia—in this he is mistaken for there is considerable trade—hence he adduces this as evidence of Russia's political aims in occupying Manchuria. Of course Russia has political reasons for her action; she intends to seize the country and occupy it permanently. Why, however, does Lord Charles, whose mission is commercial, bother his head about a country where there is no trade and again irritate Russia.

After a prolonged and veiled attack on Russia and her aims he arrives at the point where he lays down a definite line of policy for Great Britain, but that, as before mentioned, in a weak, vacillating manner. He says, "I believe the door can be kept open by having a commercial alliance between America, Germany, Japan, and ourselves." A little further on he says, "Therefore let us keep together. The British nation cannot fight for the open door by itself, but it could very well ally itself with these three countries." What a confession of weakness! Does he suppose that any one of these three countries is going to send troops out to the Far East to fight for the advancement of British trade? Nothing but troops will check the Russian advance; she does not care a straw for protestations, or threats of naval displays. Why should she? Such displays can only amuse her. As well might a whale try to frighten an elephant.

In glancing down the report of his speech we now come to an important point, viz., that it is no use keeping the door open unless the house inside is in order. This hint he received on the day of his speech from some one in Hongkong. He had toured through China seeking for suggestions and trying to discover remedies for the impediments to trade in the East and only at the last moment before starting off, brimming over with knowledge, does he get the whole thing, and that in a nutshell. It is not the door that everybody is frantically anxious to keep open that is the trouble, but the interior of the shanty that wants attention. Well! well! The man who gave him that hint is an undoubted Solomon, for in that short sentence we find the whole matter laid bare.

Dealing with the last point calls forth from him his chief panacea, viz., China must be provided with an army. He says, "You know very well what the state of the Chinese army and police is at this moment. I knew it was bad, some of you know it is bad, but I never had the shadow of a suspicion that it was as bad as I found it. They absolutely have nothing at this moment in the whole of this empire. They have no navy, their ships are not worth the name; they have only one army of 7,000 men in the whole of this gigantic population of four hundred million people."

Well, what he says is correct and it applies not only to China's army and navy but to the administration generally. It is bad, worse than bad—rotten. An army, however, is not China's chief need. Those who have come in contact with the Chinese soldier would vote for no army at all, and none more heartily than the

Chinese themselves, for in war, as in peace, the Chinese soldier is a terror to the peaceful peasant and a source only of contempt and annoyance to those who have to fight him, for he is a great believer in Fabian tactics. Japan knew the habits of China's generals and soldiers, hence when she marched on a Chinese force she divided her army of attack into three columns, sending one column well ahead on each flank of the enemy and then, advancing the three columns simultaneously, closed in on the Chinese force and destroyed it or all of it that did not succeed in bolting out between the Japanese columns. This accounts for the Chinese General killed with a large number of his men around him, which Lord Charles quotes elsewhere as a sample of Chinese valour. I would suggest an alteration in the Chinese soldier's uniform, as at present it is conveniently constructed for reversal, so that he appears one moment as a rioter destroying the hated fankwei and all his belongings and the next moment he is a noble warrior maintaining order and protecting property from mob violence. In this programme the Chinese soldier is typical of China and the Chinese and their ways.

Leaving the matter of the reorganization of the Chinese army Lord Charles touches on the question of spheres of influence, and condemns it on the ground that if Britain went in for a sphere of influence France, Russia, Germany, America, and Japan would want spheres too. Of course they would, at least all the Powers be names, except America. And why, pray, should they not have spheres? Russia already has her sphere, in practice if not in theory, but she wants and will get an extension of that sphere when ready for it, whether Lord Charles approves of it or not. Germany has got her sphere and likewise will have an extension of it in due course. France claims the three southern provinces as her sphere and has successfully defeated a concession for a British railway from this colony to Canton, on the ground that it infringes her rights. Further, she intends to dispute the Yangtze Valley with us and is at present actively pushing her claims. This, surely, is an all-important matter for Lord Charles to attend to instead of worrying about a Chinese army. We all know what China did with her navy, organized by that able man Admiral Lang. Her new army would fare no better. America does not want a sphere in China; she would be content with other spheres freely open to her trade. Japan may want a sphere; well, let her have it if she can get it and maintain order.

There is nothing more in Lord Charles's speech that I propose to deal with in this letter, though there is ample field for discussion on minor points of it.

Having opposed the remedies he proposes to apply to the disorder so rife out here and the pending final settlement of the China question it is fit and proper to advance counter proposals.

In lieu of bolstering up the present decaying Manchu Dynasty, one as much, or more, distasteful to the Chinese as it is to foreigners, I would suggest the calling together of a conference of the great Powers interested and the marking off of the spheres which each is to enter upon on the collapse of China, so nearly in view. If China has any real vitality left this preparation for her division will arouse her to life and reform. Possibly there will be a flicker of revival, but that is all that need be expected.

The spheres being agreed on there need be no conflict for the spoil when the day of division arrives. As to armies required to control each sphere, a few thousand men in each will suffice to maintain order and they can be native troops officered by Europeans and stiffened with about one regiment of Europeans. The revenues of the country occupied will more than cover expenses.

Russia would get Mongolia and Manchuria, an immense area; Germany would receive all of China Proper north of the Yangtze Valley and extending due west to the present Russian frontiers; England would get the Valleys of the Yangtze and the West River and Thibet; France would get Hainan and all those portions of the three Southern Provinces outside of the Valleys of the Yangtze and the West River, possibly also a portion of Fukien; Japan would get the rest of Fukien and part of Chekiang, also a free hand in Korea.

As regards Lord Charles's appeal for the chivalrous treatment of China, it is only a proposal for a continuation of that foolish, weak policy inaugurated and maintained by the three notable Irishmen mentioned before, the first of whom, like Lord Charles, was well intentioned but who previously erred. The two latter deserve no consideration for they only served their own ends and conserved their own interests.

Finally, as to the open door, England by the allotment of spheres, as above, would, whilst not receiving as large an area of territory as other Powers, get that in which is centred 90 per cent of China's trade and as a free trade country would hold it in the interests of the world, till such time as a strong native administration could be established there. Russia would receive an immense area for colonization by her surplus European population. Germany would, like Russia, receive a great area which is capable of development by her own people, and the wrongly named Desert of Gobi (for it is an extensive prairie capable of cultivation but at present occupied by a pastoral people) would be converted into a land of farms and the valley of the Yellow River would no longer be afflicted with floods, for the river guided in a suitable channel should be a highway for commerce. France would get a great expansion of her Indo-China Empire. She would not be satisfied, but that would be a trifling matter, as she never is. Japan's aspirations would be satisfied likewise, and all would probably agree to waive special tariffs in their new possessions; if not, England and the world need not care, with 90 per cent. of the trade open to all on equal terms.

WIDEAWAKE.

Hongkong, 9th January, 1899.

I have omitted to mention that Germany, as a great military power, would have no fear of Russian aggression and would bar further Russian advance, for should Russia seek to overwhelm her in the Far East Germany would strike a fatal blow to Russia in Europe. England would, or should, support her in China.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—In your leading article on my letter under the above heading you point out two inaccuracies; first in crediting Lord Charles with saying that there was no trade in Manchuria, and second, in saying that France had successfully defeated a concession for a British railway between Canton and Kowloon. In looking over the report of Lord Charles's speech, now lying before me, I find that the wording is as follows: "It is said the Chinese will do the same thing, but the Russian railway in Manchuria is essentially being made with Russian capital for strategical purposes. There is no trade there at present." In the above it does not state that "there is no Russian trade at present," the words are "There is no trade there at present." It is possible that his Lordship meant to say "Russian trade," but he did not say what he meant, if that was so. Assuming, however, that such was his intention he is again astray, for surely no one will deny that railway material comes under the head of trade. It must likewise be remembered that Russia does a big caravan trade with China, via Mongolia, and it would be but natural for her to avail herself of the quicker and cheaper transport by rail for this traffic, which will of course be diverted, in due course, to the Manchurian route. We pride ourselves on opening up new markets and developing old ones. Surely we will allow Russia credit for her attempts in the same direction. Are we not going to "live and let live" as regards her efforts to open up trade routes? There was no overland trade between the Atlantic and Pacific coasts of America before the trans-continental railways were built; the railways made the traffic, both in goods and passengers.

As to the second inaccuracy in my letter, the concession to build the Canton-Kowloon railway had practically been granted when France intervened, and it has not come off. The statement "And when the railway in question is undertaken it will be as a British enterprise" is good enough to cover up a defeat to British diplomacy, another indication of the want of backbone in the British Ministry at home. The bare fact remains that the French Minister in Peking sat on the concession and, for the time being, quashed it.

You next pass over the general attack on China's Irish advisers, saying it may be taken for what it is worth. Possibly it is a matter which will not stand too much investigation, so it may be left at that. Facts are often unpalatable.

You then assume that my strong advocacy for spheres or influence is a plea for direct annexation. I clearly say in my letter that Britain should control her sphere till a strong native government could be established there. That is not annexation. Finally, in speaking of the proposition I put forward, you say that the item in the receipt for cooking a hare—first catch your hare—should be remembered. Well, that item is equally applicable to the united effort proposed for supporting the integrity of China, possibly more so.

It cannot be too strongly pointed out that the marking out of spheres of influence does not necessitate the closing of doors to trade, but it undoubtedly is a better guarantee for the maintenance of order in the house than that all should be responsible for the whole of China. "What is everybody's business is nobody's business" is a proverb very applicable to such a state of affairs as would result from an attempt to control China under the united direction of Europe, Japan and America. One might certainly then "look out for squalls." As for making the Chinese patient obey the numerous doctors' orders, how is it going to be done?

WIDEAWAKE.

Hongkong, 11th January, 1899.

P.S.—The case of Egypt is not applicable to China, for there England acts alone and has full powers.

H.M.S. "WOODCOCK."

This light-draft twin-screw gunboat, of which we (*N. C. Daily News*) gave full particulars at the time of her christening, went for her steam trial on the 29th December. The party on board consisted of Commander Cochran, R.N., Lieut. Forbes, R.N., etc., H.M.S. *Phoenix*, Lieut. Watson, R.N., and Dr. Keith, R.N., of the *Woodcock*. Mr. Guyer, who has been putting her together, Mr. Mobsby, the pilot, and a few invited guests. They left the *Phoenix* at 8.45 a.m. in the *Fuyun* for Tunkadoo, and at once went on board the new craft, which will be completely ready in about ten days' time. Cast off from the pontoon at Tunkadoo at 9.45 a.m., attended by the *Fuyun*, and steamed rapidly against a strong and bitterly cold wind to Woosung, passing the Red Buoy at 11.25 a.m. Duffel coats were now served out from the ship's stores and found most comforting. Steamed a short distance up the Yangtsze, taking advantage of the opportunity to try the two six-inch guns and two of the Maxims. For the following particulars we are indebted to the kindness of Mr. Guyer:—Revolutions, 300 per minute; Steam 135 lbs.; Vacuum, 26.25 inches; Low-pressure receiver pressure, 38 lbs.; Air-pressure in stoke-hole equal to 1.25 in. of water. The vessel's draft was 2 feet forward and 1 foot 6 inches aft, mean 1 foot 9 inches, there having been no time to put her in proper trim. She was thus down by the head, and she holds a terrible quantity of wind, notwithstanding which she made 12.6 knots, her speed on trial at home, in best trim, and with no wind, having been 13.6 knots. She made a complete circle under full steam in about 2½ times her own length, 145 feet. There was very little vibration when she was going at full speed, and though there was quite sea enough in the Yangtsze to thoroughly test her, not a joint or a rivet showed a sign of leaking, everything working perfectly. On the return voyage she anchored at Woosung for an hour, when an excellent tiffin, provided by the kindness of Captain Cochran, was very much enjoyed by all hands, who were only kept from freezing by the geniality of the funnel. The journey from Woosung to Tunkadoo was made very quickly, with fair wind and tide, and after the *Woodcock* had been made fast again to the pontoon, the party returned to Shanghai in the *Fuyun*. Although the weather was atrocious the temperature that of the Arctic regions the trip was very much enjoyed, and proved beyond a doubt the thorough fitness of the *Woodcock* for river work in China.

FORMOSA.

Professor W. K. Burton writes as follows from Taihoku (Taipéh):—

We are doing fairly well as regards improvements here, in the north. I have been unable to see any other part of the country, for I have spent the whole of the time since mid-summer here, except for a day or two now and then in the hospital—a most excellent, and well-built and well-organized hospital, but only one storey high and situated in the middle of a great swamp! And this is perhaps the most malarial place in the world. I do not know who is responsible for the site. I fear it was Dr. Goto, who was here before I came for the first time.

I have been down with "Formosan fever," which is bad, with acute inflammatory rheumatism which is worse, and with dysentery, which is worst of all. Of 12 of us who were attacked with dysentery in the hospital at the same time, I am the only one alive.

This city (intramural) is likely to become a model city. It is difficult to imagine it the same place that I first saw nearly three years ago, when, in spite of wide principal streets, it was squalid and filthy, the main thoroughfares used as markets for all kinds of indescribable and stinking abominations, the side walks (covered) unusable for their proper purpose as every shop-keeper displayed his goods on the part of the pavement forming the frontage of his shop. The eternal shouting and screeching and chattering of Chinese as they tried to make bargains was quite awful.

Now it is a decent, clean, Japanese town. The Chinese, except for coolies, mostly *jinrikisha* men, have simply gone. It is difficult to say why, for no pressure was put on them. Perhaps it was because they were offered very good prices for their property; perhaps, because they resented the regulations about markets in the street, and the monopoly of the side walks (a remarkably good site being given them for a market place just outside the walls); perhaps because of strict vetoes against throwing garbage indiscriminately into the streets &c., &c.; perhaps, because they could not exist away from what seems their natural pigginess. By the way, all pigs get the order of the sack! They have, for the most part, withdrawn themselves to Banka (or Manka), now a suburb which might well be called the "Old Town," as it existed under the name Banka, or Manka, long before Taipéh became the capital. Of all the many Chinese towns I have seen it is about the most squalid and filthy. The Japanese have been tinkering at it, but with little effect, and I think I gave good advice three years ago when I said that it was hopeless; that there was nothing to be done but to destroy it, compensating the proprietors (as has been done in Hongkong, in places) and then looking to do something in the way of establishing a "New Banka."

In the city there are several imposing, if not very beautiful buildings, notably the Post Office (which would—or should—make that of Tokyo blush with shame), the meteorological observatory and the hospital—albeit it is only one story high. There is an efficient sewerage system constructed on scientific principles. If Dr. Goto can carry out his loan scheme, next year will see the beginning of a splendid modern water supply system. Streets are being made that would shame Tokyo—though that is saying mighty little. We have a road-roller. It is a legacy from the Chinese. It had been bought, I presume, for the sake of a "squeeze" that some official could make, for I understand that through several years never once did "the wheels go round." When I discovered it, it appeared to be in a pitifully hopeless condition, half buried in the ground. I was surprised, however, to find on examination that no organic disease could be diagnosed, so we got her out of the mud and had her repaired, and now she marches up and down the street proudly accompanied and followed by a vast shouting rabble, mostly children.

Macadam is well enough known here, though Telford is not despised. The streets are being made of broken stones graduated over a stratum of shingle, no gravel being used except as top-dressing—a mere sprinkling of very small stuff. I think this will turn out model streets, but of course it will take a year or two to know.

At Kelung, water works are nearly completed. At Tamsui water works were half finished last year, but have "stuck" on account of lack of skilled labour, all that we have being concentrated on Kelung. It is terribly difficult to get skilled labour here, even when offering long contracts and wages which, according to Japanese standards, must be considered extravagant.

What I have said is all about the North. Of the South I hear ugly rumours. I do not believe, however, that things are so bad as some newspapers would make them out to be, for I trace, as the originator, or at least the prompter, the same individual who wrote the absurd "atrocities" letters some three years ago. A trader who has been half ruined by the coming of the Japanese is naturally bitter against them and there is no doubt that the old traders (sovereign) have been treated very badly indeed in the matter of camphor. One of the principal houses in the Island is about to close, because the embargoes laid on obtaining and exporting camphor have made trade in camphor impossible or unremunerative.

I think that when I get out of this place I shall write an article—for a magazine, or some other kind of publication—on "Life in a Japanese Hospital." It has been a great experience to me, and has brought me a good deal nearer to the solution of the apparently indeterminate problem as to the true inner nature of the Japanese. The faithful steadfastness to duty of all here—the Doctors and the nurses—the latter perhaps more than any—is simply sublime. I can use no less forcible word.—*Japan Mail.*

AMOY RACES.

FIRST DAY, THURSDAY, 5TH JANUARY.

CONSULAR CUP; (presented); value \$100; for all China ponies; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Twoman's Hellas, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Orr's Dunblane, 11st 1lb ... 2
Mr. Waffle's Patlander, 10st 12lbs ... 3
TRIAL STAKES; of \$10 each with \$100 added; a forced entry for all untried Amoy subscription griffins of this season; first pony to receive 70 per cent., 2nd 20 per cent., and 3rd 10 per cent.; weight as per scale. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Orr's Pasha, 10st 2lbs ... 1
Mr. Waffle's Rebel, 10st 9lbs ... 2
Mr. Spencer's High-Old-Time, 10st 9lbs ... 3
RACING STAKES; of \$10 each with \$10 added; first pony to receive 75 per cent., 2nd 25 per cent.; for all China ponies; griffins at date of entry allowed 5lbs; weights as per scale. One mile and a half.

Capt. Jack's Thistle, 11st 1lbs ... 1
Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lbs ... 2
Mr. Twoman's Kilroy, 11st 1lbs ... 3
HAEKWAN CUP; (presented); value Hk. Tls. 100; for all China ponies first raced as griffins at Amoy; subscription griffins of this season allowed 5 lbs; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Orr's Sirdar, 11st 1lb ... 1
Capt. Jack's Ute, 11st 1lb ... 2
FOOCHOW CUP; (presented); value \$100; for all China ponies; griffins at date of entry allowed 5lbs.; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and three quarters.

Mr. Pug's Detrimental, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Orr's Black Slipper, 11st 1lb ... 2
Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lbs ... 3
I. M. CUSTOMS CUP; (presented); value \$125; 2nd pony \$25; for Amoy subscription griffins of this season; winner of Trial Stakes or Haekwan Cup 7lbs. extra, or of both 10lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Kinsman's Rio Fives, 10st 9lb ... 1
Mr. Spencer's High-Old-Time, 10st 9lb ... 2
Mr. Thomas's Fisherman, 11st 4lb ... 3
AMOY STAKES; of \$5 with \$100 added; a forced entry for all ponies entered at this meeting; 1st pony to receive 70 per cent., 2nd 20 per cent., and 3rd 10 per cent.; weights as per scale. One mile and a quarter.

Capt. Jack's Thistle, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Orr's Musket, 10st 12lbs ... 2
Mr. Thomas's Patlander, 10st 12lb ... 3

SECOND DAY, FRIDAY, 6TH JANUARY.

STEWARDS' CUP; (presented); value \$100; 2nd pony \$25; for all China ponies; griffins at date of entry allowed 5lbs; winners of a race at this meeting 7 lbs extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Pug's Detrimental, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Orr's Musket, 10st 12lbs ... 2
Mr. Gramsay's Nebula, 10st 12lbs ... 3

AMOY DERBY; a sweepstakes of \$10 each, half forfeit if declared on day of closing entries, with \$100 added; 2nd pony \$50; a forced entry for all bona fide griffins entered at this meeting; weights as per scale. One mile and a half.

Mr. Kinsman's Rio Fives, 10st 9lb ... 1
Mr. Spencer's High-Old-Time, 10st 9lbs ... 2
Mr. Waffle's Rebel, 10st 9lbs ... 3

CHALLENGE CUP; value \$300; a forced entry for all Amoy and Formosa owned ponies, optional to subscription griffins of this season; half entrance fees to the winner, until the second pony shall receive half the entrance fees; to be won two consecutive meetings, by a pony or ponies, the *bona fide* property of the same owner or owners; weights as per scale; entrance \$10. One mile.

Mr. Orr's Rookwood, 11st 7lbs ... 1
Mr. Waffle's Patlander, 10st 12lbs ... 2

Capt. Jack's Thistle, 11st 1lb ... 3

COMPRAORES' CUP; (presented); 2nd pony \$25; for Amoy subscription griffins of this season; winner of one race 7lbs. extra of two or more 10lbs. extra; previous non-starters 7lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. Seven furlongs.

Mr. Kinsman's Rio Fives, 10st 9lbs ... 1
Mr. Orr's Pasha, 18st 12lbs ... 2

Mr. Dryasdust's Earl Marshal, 11st 7lbs ... 3

EXCHANGE PLATE; (presented); value \$100; 2nd pony \$25; for all China ponies; subscription griffins at date of entry allowed 7lbs; winners at this meeting 7lbs extra for each race won; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Bruce's Rockhall, 10st 12lbs ... 1
Mr. Waffle's Patlander, 10st 12lbs ... 2

Mr. Orr's Musket, 10st 12lbs ... 3

TE MAA-CHIN PLATE; (presented); 1st pony to receive 75 per cent., 2nd 25 per cent.; for all China ponies; griffins at date of entry allowed 5lbs.; winners of a race at this meeting of 1½ miles or over 5lbs. extra, if of two such races 7lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$10. One mile and a half.

Mr. Pug's Detrimental, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Gramsay's New Moon, 10st 12lb ... 2

Capt. Jack's Ute, 11st 1lb ... 3

GHAASZE; (presented); value \$150; 2nd pony \$25; for Amoy subscription griffins of this season; winners of one race 7lbs. extra, of two or more 10lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Mr. Spencer's High-Old-Time, 10st 9lbs ... 1
Mr. Dryasdust's Earl Marshal, 11st 7lbs ... 2

Mr. Thomas's Fisherman, 11st 4lbs ... 3

THIRD DAY, SATURDAY, 7TH JANUARY.

LEDGER CUP; (presented); value \$100; 2nd pony \$25; for all China ponies; winners at this meeting of one race 7lb extra, of two or more 10lbs extra; previous non-starters 7lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Waffle's Patlander, 10st 12lbs ... 1
Mr. Orr's Musket, 10st 12lbs ... 2

Mr. Gramsay's New Moon, 10st 12lbs ... 3

FORMOSA CUP; (presented); value \$130; 2nd pony \$25; for all ponies first raced as griffins at Amoy or Foochow; winners at this meeting of one race 7lbs. extra, of two or more races 10lbs. extra; bona fide griffins at date of entry allowed 3lbs.; Amoy and/or Foochow subscriptions griffins of this season allowed 5lbs.; previous non-starters 7lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a quarter.

Capt. Jack's Ute, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Pug's Ghoorkha, 11st 1lb ... 2

Mr. Twoman's Kilroy, 11st 1lb ... 3

LADIES' PURSE; (presented); for all China ponies; previous non-starters 7lbs. extra; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. Three quarters of a mile.

Mr. Orr's Dunblane, 11st 1lb ... 1
Mr. Twoman's Hellas, 11st 1lb ... 2

Mr. Bruce's Rockhall, 10st 12lbs ... 3

[January 14, 1899.

LOTTERY CUP; value \$100; 2nd pony \$25; for Amoy subscription griffins of this season; winners of a mile and quarter race or over 5lbs. extra for each such race won; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile and a half.

Mr. Dryasdust's Earl Marshal, 11st 7lb ... 1

Mr. Spencer's High-Old-Time, 10st 9lb ... 2

Mr. Kinsman's Rio Fives, 10st 9lb ... 3

CONSOLIDATION CUP; value \$100; second pony \$25; for all beaten ponies that have run and not won a race at this meeting; weights as per scale; entrance \$5. One mile.

Mr. Dryasdust's Outpost, 11st 1lb ... 1

Mr. Orr's Musket, 10st 12lbs ... 2

Mr. Twoman's Kilroy, 11st 1lb ... 3

NIL DESPERANDUM STAKES; of \$5 each, with \$50 added; second pony \$25; for all beaten Amoy subscription griffins of this season; weights as per scale. Half a mile.

Mr. Thomas's Fisherman, 11st 4lbs ... 1

Mr. Haikwan's Drawback, 11st 1lb ... 2

Mr. Hokeepokee's Swift, 11st 4lbs ... 3

CHAMPION STAKES; a forced entry of \$10 each for all winners at this meeting except Nil Desperandum Stakes; second pony to receive \$50; winners of two races \$15 extra, of more than two races \$20 extra; non-winners excluded; weights as per scale. One mile.

Mr. Orr's Rookwood ... 1

Capt. Jack's Thistle ... 2

Mr. Pug's Detrimental ... 3

HONGKONG.

It has been decided to hold the Volunteer Ball on February 7th.

There were 2,298 visitors to the City Hall

Museum last week, of whom 172 were Europeans.

Mr. A. H. Hollingsworth is gazetted Acting Sanitary Surveyor, with effect from the 3rd inst., during the absence of Mr. R. F. Drury.

We are informed that subject to audit the Hongkong Land Investment Co., Limited, will pay a final dividend for 1898 of 6 per cent., making with the interim dividend already paid 10 per cent. for the year.

The return of cases of communicable disease reported as occurring in the colony last week shows that there was one case of enteric fever in the harbour, imported from Japan, and three cases of smallpox in the harbour, two of them imported from Japan and one from Shanghai.

The Secretary of the Punjum Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram giving the result of the December clean up:—"The mill ran 27 days crushing 2,650 tons yielding 23.3 ozs. of smelted gold. The bullion realised by cyaniding is estimated to value £73 sterling."

The King's Own Regiment vacated the Barracks on 10th Jan. and went over to Kowloon to camp under canvas. The 2nd battalion Royal Welsh Fusiliers to arrived here in the transport *Avoca* from Crete. The King's Own Regiment will leave in the *Avoca* for Singapore on the 16th or 17th inst.

Mrs. Hately, who was a passenger by the *Glenavon* when that vessel was wrecked, left for home on 6th January by the *Prinz Heinrich*. Mrs. Hately desires to thank H.E. the Governor and the community for their generous contributions to the subscription raised on behalf of herself and child.

We understand a suit has been commenced against Consul-General Wildman by certain Filipinos with reference to certain funds alleged to have been deposited with him and as to the disposition of which a dispute has arisen. Mr. Francis, Q.C., has been retained for the plaintiffs.

On 11th January a tailor named Ho Cheen, of Graham Street, was drowned in the harbour. He had been on board the *Olympia*, and was leaving in a sampan when the boat was capsized by a sudden squall. The man was picked up by No. 3 dock launch and taken on board the *Olympia*, but all efforts to restore consciousness failed.

It is reported that the Government does not intend to proceed with the Bill entitled "An Ordinance to make further provision for the sanitation of the colony and to repeal certain enactments of the Closed Houses and Insanitary Dwellings Ordinance, 1894." Probably a new and modified Bill will be introduced. We can not vouch for the accuracy of this information.

Reports of the reappearance of plague in the neighbouring province continue to circulate at Canton. The *Ling Hoi Pao* of the 30th December states that the disease has again broken out in the districts of Yeung Chuan, Yeung Kong, Ying Tak, and Ching Un, on the North River, and in the villages of Hu Kau, Long Hing, and Ta Fo in the Namhoi district.

The following returns of the average amount of Bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st December, 1898, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks, are published:—

Banks.	Average Specie in Amount.	Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China	\$2,873,594	\$2,000,000
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation	6,799,128	3,500,000
National Bank of China, Limited	448,875	150,000
Total	\$10,11,597	\$5,650,000

From the *Singapore Free Press* we learn that it was in the Suez Canal the M. M. steamer *Tonkin* met with the accident which has delayed her on her passage out. She broke one of her propellers but as she is provided with two propellers it is supposed she will not be much behind her time. She was fixed to leave Colombo on the 5th January. The *Tonkin* is the newest steamer of the Messageries Maritimes and, with the *Aunam* to follow and the *Ernest Simons*, *Indus*, and *Laos* already on the run of the Indo-China line, forms one of a quintet of floating palaces of which any mail company may justly be proud.

At the Magistracy on 11th Jan. John Morton, of no fixed abode, was charged with endeavouring to collect charitable contributions under false pretences. On Monday morning he went to G. R. Ainslie, late 1st Officer of the *Glenavon*, and asked him for assistance, saying that he had belonged to the *Glenavon*, a statement which Ainslie knew to be untrue. Defendant now said that he merely stated that he landed some of the *Glenavon*'s crew in a Chinese Customs launch. He was formerly in the Chinese Customs service, but had been dismissed. He was sentenced to 14 days' imprisonment.

The *Foochow Echo* records a sad accident that happened about 5 a.m. on Wednesday, 21st December, by which the Captain of the barque *Elizabeth*, of Amoy, lost his life. The vessel had just passed Sharp Peak point piloted by Captain M. M. Holdt, with Captain Pluger at the wheel, when the pilot advised the Captain to allow one of the hands to relieve him, being clear of the land. This was done, but while the Captain was examining some part of the vessel's fittings in the neighbourhood of the gangway his foot must have slipped and he fell overboard. Captain Holdt heard a cry repeated three times from the water, but as it was still quite dark, before the vessel's way was stopped and a boat lowered the poor man, who was seen once by Captain Holdt a few yards off, had sunk. The pilot brought the vessel back to Sharp Peak to wait instructions from Messrs. Pasedig & Co., the owners in Amoy.

At the Magistracy on 6th Jan. J. Donenberg, proprietor of the Colonial Hotel, Jubilee Street, was charged with supplying liquor to Europeans during prohibited hours. Sergeant Dymond said that he visited the hotel at a quarter past five on Thursday morning in company with defendant, whom he saw standing at the corner of Queen's Road and Jubilee Street. He found on the premises a dozen blue jackets and three marines. Some were standing, some sitting, and others lounging about over the bar. Some had pots of beer and one who was sitting down had a glass of spirits. Previous to his entering the house the door was ajar. In reply to Mr. Grist, who appeared for defendant, witness said he did not see anyone actually drinking. They were dumbfounded at his appearance. There were two females behind the bar. He could not say that he saw liquor sold. He did not know that the people he saw in the house had been sleeping there. Mr. Grist claimed that defendant was entitled to be discharged on technical grounds, there being no proof of actual sale. Commander Hastings, however, bound defendant over, in the sum of \$100, to be of good behaviour for six months.

It is notified that owing to the scarcity of water the Kowloon supply will be turned on only from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m.

On Saturday afternoon a fire, caused by the bursting of a kerosine lamp, broke out in a marine store in Wing Wo lane, just across from No. 5, Police Station. The fire brigade turned out and several lengths of hose were attached to the hydrants, with the result that the flames were soon extinguished. The building was not injured much, but damage to the extent of about \$1,000 was done to the stock. The damage is covered by insurance in the Hanseatic Fire Insurance Company.

K. Sekiqueki was the manager of a Japanese boarding house at 24, Praya Central, and as such had been in the habit of procuring crews for vessels in need of them. Wishing to get home to Japan he took advantage of this practice in order to raise the necessary money. On Sunday he told eleven men who were staying in the boarding house of which he had charge that he could find them employment on a vessel going to Manila and they agreed to accept it. Sekiqueki then went to a fellow countryman—Masuda Munya—who has a photographing establishment in Queen's Road Central, and asked him for the loan of \$330 with which to pay the men, promising to let him have it back as soon as he received the money from the captain of the vessel, and the photographer, who had advanced him money under similar circumstances before, acceded to his request. In the meantime the eleven men went to the U. S. Consulate to ship. They were informed, however, that no men were required and that no one had been authorised to engage any. The men then came away, but soon afterwards met Sekiqueki near the Hongkong Hotel. They spoke to him, and he replied that the captain was in the hotel and he would go and see him. He accordingly went inside. The men waited for some time, but as he did not re-appear they made enquiries and found that he had gone in at one door and gone out at another. The story was told to the police, and the same day Inspector Gourlay arrested the man on board the *Benledi*, he having taken a passage for Nagasaki. On him were found \$260, a watch, and a ring. When brought before Commander Hastings on 9th January the accused pleaded guilty to obtaining the money by false pretences, and was sentenced to six months' hard labour.

A kidnapping case of a somewhat exceptional character came before Commander Hastings at the Magistracy on 9th January, the prisoner—a Chinaman—being committed to take his trial at the Sessions. It appears that on the 28th of last month a girl about eight years of age residing in Wing Sing Street was sent by her parents to buy some food from a shop in Stanley Street. As she had not returned at the end of a couple of hours the parents became alarmed and informed the police, subsequently issuing notices offering \$30 reward to anyone giving such information as would lead to the recovery of the child. An informer acquainted with prisoner got to know that he had a girl, but could not find out where he was keeping her. Meeting prisoner again on Sunday they again began to talk about the girl. Prisoner asked him if he could do business with him, and not getting a reply at once from the informer he added, "Never mind, I have a would-be purchaser at Cheung Chau. I am going to take the girl there to-morrow. When I get the money we will have a cup of tea." The informer, who had already told the police what he had discovered, imparted to them this additional piece of intelligence, with the result that prisoner was arrested while on his way to the steamer. He was leading the girl, who had had her head shaved and was dressed like a boy, by the hand. It would appear that when going the errand on which she had been sent the girl was stopped by prisoner, who said he would take her home. He, however, took her to the house of a friend at West Point, where she remained three days and three nights. He offered the girl to the landlady of the house to be betrothed to her son. The landlady would gladly have accepted the offer, but she seemed to have some doubt as to whether all was right. She accordingly went down to the joss-house to consult the oracle, and the answer she got was that it would be a risky thing to accept the offer, and that she had better have nothing to do with it.

At the Magistracy on Saturday Henry Oliver, of the Travellers' Hotel, Queen Victoria Street, was fined \$50 for supplying intoxicating liquors to Europeans during prohibited hours. Sergeant Dymond said that at about a quarter to six on the morning of the 5th inst. he entered the hotel and found therein seven British bluejackets and three German sailors. Behind the bar were a Chinaman and a woman. He took the latter to be defendant's wife. Pots containing what appeared to be beer were being put on the counter just as he went in and money was being tendered in payment. When the woman behind the bar found him out she handed the money back and then the lights went out. He ordered them to be put in again. He told the landlady he should report the case. He followed him up the Market steps, asking him to give her a chance as he did not know what a lot of trouble they had had. In answer to Mr. Grist, who appeared for the defence, the witness said he did not see anyone actually take the liquor up from the counter. He did not know that all the Britishers in the house had been sleeping there. Mr. Grist said that all the British bluejackets had been sleeping in the house. They had to be on board at half-past six, but were waiting until six o'clock so that they might get a drink. In the meantime drinks were being got ready for them. The Germans were not supplied with anything.

COMMERCIAL.

SILK.

SHANGHAI, 7th January.—(From Messrs. A. R. Urkull & Sons' Circular).—Home Markets keep very firm; Blue Elephants are quoted in London at 11/12 and Gold Kilings in Lyons at Fcs. 29.25. Raw Silk.—Although the settlements of Tsatees are not on a large scale, prices show a rise of Tls. 13/17 since our last Circular. Gold Kilings having been settled to-day at Tls. 4.10. Business to the extent of 200 bales has been done in Hangchow Elephants and Skeins. Yellow Silk.—About 1,000 bales have been settled; the demand for Mienchow still continues. Arrivals, as per Customs Return, December 30th to January 6th, are: 1,040 bales White, 211 bales Yellow, and 221 bales Wild Silk. Reels and Filatures.—Further settlements for America in Hand Filatures are reported; for Lyons there is little doing. There has been more doing in Steam Filatures, a parcel of 200 bales Lun Wha 13/15, 1, 2, and 3, has been settled, and the price reported is Tls. 7524; about 100 bales of Market chops have changed hands on the basis of quotations below. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 2,134 bales to France, 1,156 to America and 70 bales to England. Wild Silk—Market weak and prices declining. The only business of importance this week has been the purchase of 700 piculs Honan Waste No. 1 and 1½ at Tls. 10/14, 300 piculs Shantung long Waste B. (whole bales) at Tls. 19/19½. Shantung Pongees.—Settlements of 3,500 picces of the following are reported: 19 by 18½/19 yards by 25 oz. at Tls. 4.35/4.40; 19 by 18½/19 yard by 28/24 oz. at Tls. 4.21.

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales	bales
Shanghai	43,026	37,182
Canton	20,721	16,748
Yokohama	13,806	13,197
	77,453	67,127

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-99	1897-98
	bales	bales
Shantung	4,831	8,227
Canton	7,040	8,235
Yokohama	13,792	21,174
	26,663	37,636

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—The weakness continuing prices have declined. Quotations for Fomesa are \$48.50 to \$49.00. Sales, 210 piculs.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—The improvement last noted has not continued and prices are now lower. Quotations are:—Shekloong, No. 1, White... \$7.70 to \$7.75 per pic. do. " 2, White... 7.15 to 7.20 "

Shekloong, No. 1, Brown...	\$1.95 to \$1.00	per pol.
do, " 2, Brown...	4.85 to 4.90	"
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.55 to 7.60	"
do, " 1, White...	7.00 to 7.05	"
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.75 to 4.80	"
do, " 2, Brown...	4.60 to 4.65	"
Foochow Sugar Candy...	11.00 to 11.10	"
8 cwt. boxes	10.00 to 10.05	"

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Bamberg*, sailed on the 24th December. For Suez:—8 cases fans. For Odessa:—165 cases staraniseed and 236 bales galangal. For Havre:—1 box sundries, 2 bales human hair, 2 bales canes, 8 cases Chinaware, 33 bales hemp, 50 boxes staraniseed, 100 boxes camphor, 152 rolls mats, and 152 packages canes. For Havre and/or Marseilles and/or Hamburg:—40 cases albumin. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London:—21 boxes essential oil and 300 cases staraniseed. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—18 bales cowhides. For Havre and/or Hamburg and/or London and/or Antwerp:—2 cases human hair. For Hamburg:—1 case gongs, 2 cases lacquerware, 3 cases tea, 3 cases private effects, 4 cases black-woodware, 4 cases cassia, 4 cases China ink, 5 cases palm leaf fans, 5 cases bamboo ware, 6 cases curios, 10 bales rattan shavings, 16 packages sundries, 20 bales galangal, 25 cases skins, 35 cases Chinaware, 44 bales tobacco leaf, 94 rolls matting, 100 cases cassia buds, 114 bales feathers, 160 cases gallnuts, 178 bales canes, 200 bales tobacco, 300 cases camphor, and 500 bales broken cassia. For Hamburg and/or Antwerp:—21 bales cowhides. For Hamburg and/or London:—51 bales feathers. For Bremen:—50 bales leaf tobacco. For Christiania:—1 case sundries. For London:—3 bales hair, 11 cases skins, and 3,100 bales hemp. For New York:—100 boxes essential oil.

Per steamer *Polypheus*, sailed on the 1st January. For London:—25 cases cigars, 5 cases bristles, 3 cases Chinaware, 95 rolls matting, 50 bales canes, 12 packages effects, and 2 packages sundries. For Liverpool:—30 bales yarn and 3 cases cigars. For Glasgow:—1 case sundries.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 13th Jan.—Bengal.—The market has been rather dull the last few days with hardly any buyers. Patna closes quiet at \$81 1/2. Benares has advanced in price and is quoted \$81 7/8 per chest.

Mulwa.—A fair amount of business has been put through, and at the close there is a good demand for New Opium, but the market for Old Opium is rather quiet. Quotations are as under:—New \$78 with all nice of 0 to 2 1/2 catty. Old (2/3 yrs.) \$740 " " 1/2 to 1 " " (4 ") \$760 " " 0 to 1 " " (5/6 ") \$780 " " nil.

Persian.—The market continues rather quiet for Oily, which is quoted from \$550 to \$650. There is a good demand for Paper-tied quality, which closes strong at \$650/720.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—New Patna 2,009 chests. New Benares 237 " Malwa 600 " Persian 820 "

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
Jan. 7	802 1/2	—	797 1/2	—	730	
Jan. 8	805	—	800	—	730	
Jan. 9	805	—	807 1/2	—	730	
Jan. 10	810	—	819	—	730	
Jan. 11	812 1/2	—	817 1/2	—	730	
Jan. 12	812 1/2	—	817 1/2	—	730	
Jan. 13	812 1/2	—	817 1/2	—	730	

RICE.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—Owing to the continued drought holders are firm and prices are advancing. Quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.60 to \$2.65
do, Round, good quality.....	2.70 to 2.75
do, Long.....	2.85 to 2.90
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 ..	2.95 to 3.00
do, Garden, No. 1 ..	3.05 to 3.10
do, White.....	3.70 to 3.75
do, Fine Cargo	3.85 to 3.90

COALS.	
HONGKONG, 13th January.—No business doing.	
Quotations are:—	
Scariff	\$18.00 to 19.00 ex ship, nominal
Australian	10.00 to 10.50 ex ship, "
Miiki Lump	9.00 to 10.25 nominal
and Small.	9.00 to 10.25 nominal
Miiki Lump	7.50 to 9.00 ex ship, steady
Hongay double	12.00 ex Godown
Hongay Lump	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.	5.50 to —
Briquettes	10.01 to —

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 13th January.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:— <i>Bombay Yarn</i> .
1,410 bales No. 10 at \$68 to \$82, 650 bales No. 12 at \$72 to \$81, 450 bales No. 16 at \$79 to \$86.75, 730 bales No. 20 at \$81 to \$91.50. <i>Japanese Yarn</i>
—50 bales No. 10 at \$77.50, 51 bales No. 16 at \$84.50. <i>Grey Shirtings</i> .—750 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red 7 Boys at \$2.55, 500 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Blue Seal \$2.90, 2,000 pieces 10 lbs. Blue 5 Men at \$3.85, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. Red 7 Boys \$2.55, 600 pieces 8 1/2 lbs. 3 Dogs at \$2.97, 700 pieces 7 lbs. Chair Chop at \$1.90, 500 pieces 10 lbs. Red 5 Men \$3.82. <i>White Shirtings</i> .—250 pieces Peacock Chop at \$3.47, 500 pieces S 5 at \$4.57, 500 pieces Flower Cho at \$4.87, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$5.87, 500 pieces Gold Elephant at \$3.87, 500 pieces S. Q. at \$4.17, 500 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.35, 500 pieces S 2 at \$4.40, 1,500 Blue Lion at \$5.87. <i>T-Cloths</i> .—300 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. Red Slag at \$2.46, 50 pieces 7 lbs. Mex. B at \$2.82, 600 pieces 8 lbs. Mex. G. Dragon at \$2.72, 750 pieces Mex. Red Slags at \$2.36. <i>Drills</i> .—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.35, 150 pieces 14 lbs. Peacock Chop at \$3.90. No. 22/24 Yarn. 100 bales Green Phoenix at \$106.50. <i>White Irishes</i> .—500 pieces Gold Horse at \$4.52. <i>Bengal Cotton</i> .—50 bales at \$16.25, 50 bales at \$16.50, 100 bales at \$16.50.
METALS.— <i>Quicksilver</i> : 350 flasks at \$156.

COTTON YARN.	per bale
<i>Bombay</i> —Nos. 10 to 20s.	62.00 to 96.00
<i>English</i> —Nos. 16 to 24.	100.00 to 107.00
" 22 to 24.	103.00 to 110.00
" 28 to 32.	114.00 to 120.00
" 38 to 42.	124.00 to 130.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS.	per piece
<i>Grey Shirtings</i> —6 lbs.	1.70 to 1.80
7 lbs.	1.92 to 2.00
8.4 lbs.	2.30 to 3.05
9 to 10 lbs.	3.20 to 4.00
<i>White Shirtings</i> —54 to 56 rd.	2.31 to 2.50
58 to 60 ..	2.70 to 3.35
64 to 66 ..	3.45 to 4.30
Fine ..	4.30 to 7.00
Book-folds.	3.70 to 5.60
<i>Victorina Lawns</i> —12 yards ..	0.64 to 1.30
<i>T-Cloths</i> —6 lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y.	1.52 to 1.72
7 lbs. (32 ..), ..	1.85 to 2.10
6 lbs. (32 ..), Mexs.	1.62 to 1.82
7 lbs. (32 ..), ..	2.05 to 2.75
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.)	2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16 lbs ..	3.65 to 5.35

FANCY COTTONS.	per piece
<i>Turkey Red Shirtings</i> —1 1/2 to 8 lbs.	1.60 to 3.45
<i>Brocades</i> —Dyed	3.00 to —
<i>Damasks</i>	0.12 to 0.16
<i>Chintzes</i> —Assorted	0.08 to —
<i>Velvets</i> —Black. 22 in.....	0.20 to —
<i>Velveteens</i> —18 in.	0.17 to 0.18
<i>Handkerchiefs</i> —Imitation Silk	0.25 to 1.25

WOOLLENS.	per yard
<i>Spanish Stripes</i> —Sundry chps.	0.60 to 1.50
German	0.60 to 1.50
<i>Habit, Med., and Broad Cloths</i> .	1.00 to 2.25
per piece	
<i>Long Ells</i> —Scarlet	6.25 to 8.00
Assorted	6.35 to 8.10
<i>Camlets</i> —Assorted	12.00 to 32.00
<i>Lastings</i> —30 yds., 31 inches, Assorted	10.00 to 20.00
<i>Orleans</i> —Plain	7.50 to 9.00
per pair	
<i>Blankets</i> —8 to 12 lbs.	3.50 to 14.00

METALS.	per picul
<i>Iron</i> —Nail Rod	4.00 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ..	4.15 to —
Swedish Bar	6.00 to —
Small Round Rod	4.50 to —
Hoop 1 to 1 1/2 in.,	5.75 to —
Wire 15/25	9.00 to —
Old	

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG. 3th January.—A fair business has been put through during the week under review and rates have ruled from steady to strong.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have improved to 255 per cent. prem. with small sales for cash at that rate and at 257 and 258 for February, and 260 and 261 for March, market closing firm at 255 cash and with further buyers forward. Nationals remain unchanged with a small business.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions have changed hands at \$229 and \$230, and China Traders at \$63 and \$64. Cantons, Straits, and the Northern Assurances remain neglected and without business.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkongs have changed hands at \$316 and \$315 and close with buyers at the latter rate. China Fires are enquired for in a small way at \$88 to \$89.

SHIPPING.—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands in fair lots at \$263, \$27, \$274, and \$28 for cash and at about equivalent rates for March. The Company, subject to audit of accounts, will pay a dividend of \$1.20 per share. Indo Chinas with shares offering from the North have ruled quiet at \$61 with sales, cash, and at \$65 for April; market closes with more shares on the market for March, but with the cash rate a little firmer at \$61. China Manilas continue unchanged and without business. Douglasses have improved to \$54 and \$55 with sales, closing with a few shares on offer at \$55. China Mutuals continue in demand but without business.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars, with shares offering from the North, have ruled much quieter with little or no business and close with sellers at \$170. Luzons are enquired for in small lots at \$55, but there is no business to report.

MINING.—Punjoms have somewhat improved with sales at \$6.25, \$6.50, and \$6.75, closing steady at \$6.50. Charbonnages have changed hands at \$115 and more shares are obtainable at that rate. Olivers and Queens have found buyers at quotations. Jalebus with a demand from the South have been negotiated at \$5.35, \$5.40, and \$5.50, closing at \$5.25. Raubs have ruled easier with sales at \$49, \$48, \$47, and \$464, closing steady at \$47. Great Easterns have found fair buyers at \$7½ and \$7¾, closing quiet at the latter rate.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue moving upwards and have now reached 300 per cent. prem. for cash after sales at 293, 295, and 298. On time shares have changed hands at 300, 302, 305, and 308, for March 31st, market closing steady at 300 per cent. prem. Kowloon Wharves continue in request without sellers at \$78½ and with shares for the coming buyers would doubtless pay \$79. Wanchais continue neglected and without business.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands after some few further sales in the early part of the week at \$74 gradually improved, with sales, to \$75, \$76, \$77, and \$78, closing with buyers at \$78½ to \$79. The directors recommend a final dividend for 1898 of \$3 per share, making in all 10 per cent. for the year. Hotels have ruled quiet with only a small business at \$71½ and \$72. West Points are enquired for at \$18 without leading to business. Humphreys have changed hands and are still wanted at quotation.

COTTON MILLS.—Hongkongs have found buyers at \$78½ and a few small lots are probably still obtainable at that rate. The Northern Cotton Mills remain without local business and quotations are as usual taken from the Shanghai circulars.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have been constantly enquired for and the rate has risen to \$11½ with buyers after only small sales at \$104, \$11½, and \$11. Green Islands have improved with small sales at \$27½ for Old and \$26½ for New, both closing with buyers. Watsons have changed hands at \$12½ cash and at \$1.75 for settlements. An enquiry for Electric's at \$10.25 to \$10.50 remains unsatisfied. China Providents have been neglected at quotation.

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATION.
Banks—		
Hongkong & S'hai...	\$125	\$413.75, buyers
China & Japan, prf.	\$5	nominal
Do. ordinary...	\$4	\$1
Do. deferred...	\$1	\$5.5s.
Natl. Bank of China		
B. Shares	\$8	\$17, sellers
Founders Shares..	\$8	\$17, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A...	\$1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$1
China Prov. L. & M....	\$10	\$10.25 sales & sel.
China Sugar	\$100	\$170, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo...	Tls. 100	Tls. 10
International	Tls. 166	Tls. 80
Lau Kung Mow ..	Tls. 100	Tls. 10
Soychee ..	Tls. 500	Tls. 410
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 55
Hongkong	\$70	78, buyers
Dairy Farm Co.....	\$1	\$5
Fenwick & Co., Geo...	\$25	\$31, buyers
Green Island Cement..	\$10	\$27½
Do. New Issue	\$1	\$26
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$33
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	\$10	\$126
Hongkong Electric ..	\$10	\$10.25 buyers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$122, buyers
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$72, sellers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$120, sellers
H. & K. Wharf & G...	\$50	\$78½, buyers
Hongkong Rope.....	\$50	\$172½
H. & W. Dock	\$125	300 p. et. prem. =
Insurances—		[\$500, buyers]
Canton.....	\$50	\$150, sellers
China Fire	\$20	\$8.9, buyers
China Traders'	\$25	\$64, sales
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$315, buyers
North-China	\$25	Tls. 180
Straits	\$20	\$7, sellers
Union	\$50	\$230, sellers
Yangtsze.....	\$60	\$12½
Land and Building—		
H. Land Investment	\$50	\$78½, buyers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$3.75, buyers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$18½
West Point Building	\$40	\$19, sellers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fee. 250	\$115, sal. & sellers
Great E. & C'donian	\$1	\$7.15, sellers
Jalebu	\$1	\$5.25
Queens' Mines Ld....	25c.	75 cts.
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	45	\$7, buyers
Do. B. ...	\$24	\$5.25
Punjom	\$5	\$6.50
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$1.50 sales
Raubs	14s. 10d.	\$47, buyers
New Amoy Dock	\$64	\$15½, buyers
Steamship Coy.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$95
China Mutual Ord.	\$10	\$9. 1½, buyers
Do. Preference ..	\$10	\$10, buyers
Do. 10.	\$5	\$3, buyers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$5	\$55, sellers
H. Canton and M....	\$15	\$28, sellers
Indo-China S. N.....	\$10	\$1, buyer
Star Ferry	\$74	\$114, buyers
Tebrau Planting Co. ...	\$5	\$5 sellers
Do.	\$1	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$1. 0, buyers
Do.	\$10	\$10, nominal
Wanchai Wharves Co.	\$37	\$41
Watson & Co., A. S....	\$10	\$12½, buyers
J. Y. V. VERNON, broker,		

SHA GHAI, 7th January.—From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—The New Year holidays have interfered somewhat with business. On the whole prices have improved, with the signal exception of Langkat shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares were sold on the 4th at 242½ per cent. premium, and to Hongkong at 248 per cent. with exchange 72½. In sympathy with the Hongkong market prices have since improved, shares having been sold for cash at 245½ per cent. and 247½ for cash, and 246 per cent. for the 31st current, and 260 per cent. for the 31st March. The London quotation is £54. National Bank of China shares were placed at \$17. Marine Insurance.—One or two lots of North-China Insurance shares changed hands at Tls. 180, and more are on offer. Fire Insurance.—No local business is reported. Shipping.—Indo-China S. N. shares have been in demand, and shares were placed locally at Tls. 45, cash, Tls. 47½ for March and Tls. 48 for April. A lot was placed to Hongkong at \$12, with exchange 72½. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares are offering at Tls. 37½. Mining.—No local business. Sheridan C. Mining and M. shares are wanted, at possibly an improvement

on the quoted rate. Docks, Wharves and Godowns.—Shares in Boyd & Co. have changed hands at Tls. 185; S. C. Farnham & Co. shares were placed at Tls. 164. Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were sold at \$127½, and are wanted. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares have been selling at Tls. 88. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares were parted with at Tls. 205 cum the dividend of Tls. 8 payable on the 19th current. Major Brothers shares were placed at Tls. 32½ and Tls. 35. International Cotton Mill shares were placed at Tls. 82 cash, Tls. 81½ for the 15th, and Tls. 85 for the 31st March. Laou-kung-now shares were sold for the 31st March at Tls. 84. Several lots of Shanghai Ice shares (New) were placed at Tls. 26. China Flour Mill shares were sold at Tls. 42½. Shanghai Eis Action Gesellschaft.—he report and accounts for the year ending 31st October last have been published. The meeting of shareholders will be held to-morrow. The net profits amount to Tls. 12,735.44, equal to 23.58 per cent. on the capital, against 10.88 per cent. in 1897. The Directors propose to pay a dividend of 12 per cent. which will absorb Tls. 6,480.00, to transfer to the Reserve Fund Tls. 3,200.00 (which will then stand at Tls. 10,000), to Depreciation Account Tls. 88.1.62, thus raising it to Tls. 4,091.32, and to Plant Account Tls. 2,174.82. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Shanghai Tug Boat shares are in demand at Tls. 195. Shanghai Cargo Bont shares are wanted at Tls. 150. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Langkat Tobacco shares were placed for June on the 3rd instant at Tls. 120, cum the new issue at par.

TONNAGE.

SHANGHAI, 9th January (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—We have little of interest to record in connection with homeward freights; tonnage has been quite sufficient for shippers' requirements, though, steamers would like to see more cargo offering for shipment. Coastwise there is nothing to report, business being confined to the local coasting companies. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Baltic via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Konigsberg via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Manchester, by Conference Lines, general cargo 52s. 6d.; waste silk 55s.; tea 57s. 6d.; Liverpool, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 50s.; tea 52s. 6d.; Hamburg, by Conference Lines, general cargo 40s.; waste silk 42s. 6d.; tea 45s. Above rates are subject to a deferred rebate, as per Conference circular. Havre, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Genoa, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net; Marseilles, by Conference Lines, tallow 36s. net, general cargo 36s. net, waste silk 38s. 6d. net, tea 40s. 6d. net. 35s. per ton of 20 cwt. net for above three ports. New York, by sail, 1½ nominal. New York via Pacific, 1½ gold cents per lb. tea, 6 cents per lb. silk, \$10 per ton strawbraid. New York via Suez, 27s. 6d. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 27s. 6d. for tea. Boston, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Philadelphia, 35s. general cargo, 10s. extra for Turmeric, 40s. for tea. Coast rates.—Moji to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton coal nominal; Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton coal nominal; Newchwang to Kobe closed; Newchwang to Swatow closed; Newchwang to Canton closed; Wuhu to Canton 15 cands.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

For LONDON.—Nestor (str.), Japan (str.), Chusan (str.), Inaba Maru (str.).

For BOMBAY.—Hiroshima Maru (str.).

For BREMEN.—Preussen (str.).

For MARSEILLE.—Inaba Maru (str.), Salaria (str.).

For HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Sarnia (str.), Asturia (str.), Dorothea Rickmers (str.), Suevia (str.), Wittenberg (str.).

For SAN FRANCISCO.—Gaelic (str.), City of Peking (str.), America Maru (str.), Queen Margaret

For VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).

For VICTORIA, B.C., AND ILOCA.—Glenogle (str.).

For PORTLAND, O.—Columbia (str.).

For SAN DIEGO.—Curtis City (str.).

For NEW YORK.—Commonwealth (str.), Kenmore (str.), Mogul (str.), Eidsvold (str.).

For AUSTRALIA.—Menmuir (str.).

For THURSDAY ISLAND.—Tokio Maru (str.).

For SEATTLE.—Kinskin Maru (str.), Indrahi (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

December— ARRIVALS.

6. Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Canton.
 6. Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 7. Haitan, British str., from Coast Ports.
 7. Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 7. Chelydra, British str., from Calcutta.
 7. Lienshing, British str., from Canton.
 7. Changsha, British str., from Sydney.
 7. Monmouthshire, Brit. str., from Portland.
 7. Kalgan, British str., from Canton.
 7. Bengal, British str., from Bombay.
 8. Glenogle, British str., from Tacoma.
 8. Guthrir, British str., from Sydney.
 8. Sikh, British str., from New York.
 8. Sishan, British str., from Swatow.
 8. Tritos, German str., from Saigon.
 8. Namyong, British str., from Singapore.
 8. Tailee, German str., from Manila.
 8. Tetartos, German str., from Saigon.
 8. Kiangpak, British str., from Canton.
 8. Michael Jebsen, German str., from Hoihow.
 9. Taksang, British str., from Canton.
 9. Olympia, British str., from Tacoma.
 9. Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 9. Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 9. Hong Beng, British str., from Saigon.
 9. Taicheong, German str., from Saigon.
 9. Trym, Norwegian str., from Amoy.
 10. Independent, French str., from Iloilo.
 10. Anping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 10. Sungkhang, British str., from Manila.
 10. Formosa, British str., from Tamsui.
 10. Wingsaug, British str., from Canton.
 10. Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 11. Chowfa, British str., from Bangkok.
 11. Szechuen, British str., from Canton.
 11. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.
 11. Astrid, Norwegian str., from Hongay.
 11. Dione, British str., from Shanghai.
 11. Hanoi, French str., from Haiphong.
 11. Lightaing, British str., from Calcutta.
 11. Shini Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 11. Whampoa, British str., from Shanghai.
 11. Preussen, German str., from Bremen.
 11. Mazagon, British str., from Bombay.
 11. Vladimir, Russian str., from Singapore.
 11. Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., from Antwerp.
 12. Hailoong, British str., from Coast Ports.
 12. Bellierophon, British str., from Penang.
 12. Quarta, German str., from Bangkok.
 12. Shansi, British str., from Chinkiang.
 12. Toonan, Chinese str., from Amoy.
 12. Triumph, German str., from Pakhoi.
 12. Martha, German str., from Mororan.
 12. Patroclus, British str., from Liverpool.
 12. Ningchow, British str., from Moji.
 12. Hongkong, French str., from Manila.
 12. Salazie, French str., from Shanghai.
 12. Hating, French str., from Haiphong.
 13. Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Amoy.
 13. Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
 13. Avoca, British transport, from Singapore.
 13. Socotra, British str., from London.
 13. Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 13. Yedo Maru, Jap. str., from Saigon.
 13. Chinkiang, British str., from Wuhu.
 13. Hunan, British str., from Wuhu.
 13. Powerful, British cruiser, from Amoy.
 13. Gisela, Austrian str., from Trieste.
 13. Nierstein, German str., from Chefoo.
 13. Grafton, British cruiser, from Singapore.
 13. St. Enoch, British str., from Malta.

January— DEPARTURES.

7. Parramatta, British str., for Europe.
 7. Pakshan, British str., for Swatow.
 7. Knivsberg, German str., for Manila.
 7. Clara, German str., for Haiphong.
 7. Sabine Rickmers, German str., for Swatow.
 7. Peiyang, German str., for Shanghai.
 7. Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.
 7. Chiyo Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 7. Woosung, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 7. Lienshing, British str., for Swatow.
 7. Deuter, German str., for Saigon.
 7. Benledi, British str., for Nagasaki.
 7. Peshawur, British str., for Bombay.
 7. Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.
 7. Rosetta, British str., for Yokohama.
 8. China, German str., for Saigon.
 8. Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.
 8. Kweiyang, British str., for Amoy.
 8. Machew, British str., for Bangkok.

8, Taiohio, British str., for Tamsui.
 8, Zafiro, Amr. transport, for Manila.
 8, Howard D. Troop, British ship, for Puget Sound.
 8, Bengal, British str., for Shanghai.
 9, Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Moji.
 9, Sikh, British str., for Shanghai.
 10, Kalgan, British str., for Amoy.
 10, Kwanglee, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 10, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., for Bangkok.
 10, Taksang, British str., for Taiwanfoo.
 10, Toyo Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 10, Haitan, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 10, Tsinan, British str., for Syduey.
 10, Sultan, British str., for Kobe.
 11, Michael Jebsen, German str., for Hoihow.
 11, Canton, British str., for Saigon.
 11, Zweena, British str., for Singapore.
 11, Fushun, Chinese str., for Canton.
 11, Hikosan Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 11, Whampoa, British str., for Canton.
 11, Sishan, British str., for Swatow.
 11, Diomed, British str., for London.
 12, Szechuen, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Kiangnan, Chinese str., for Chinkiang.
 12, Loyal, German str., for Saigon.
 12, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Saigon.
 12, Hohenzollern, German str., for Yokohama.
 12, Formosa, British str., for Swatow.
 12, Fukui Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 12, Anping, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 12, Tenshio Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.
 12, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for Knotzu.
 12, Shansi, British str., for Canton.
 12, Taicheong, German str., for Moji.
 12, Chelydra, British str., for Calcutta.
 13, Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.
 13, Vladimir, Russian str., for Nagasaki.
 13, Frej, Danish str., for Manila.
 13, Sungkiaog, British str., for Manila.
 13, Hitachi Maru, Jap. str., for Yokohama.
 13, Mamagon, British str., for Kobe.
 13, Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 13, Hanoi, French str., for Hoihow.
 13, Preussen, German str., for Shanghai.

PASSENGER LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per Loongmoon, from Shanghai, Messrs. Cheaff, R. Ahrens, H. Venhaus, R. Ramu-witch, and H. Moier, Lieut. Chaw-ting-wai, and 142 Chinese.

Per Haitan, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. L. Sculfort, Miss Barr, Messrs. Edwards, Malcampo, and Sheong Ku Alum, and 182 Chinese.

Per Guthrie, from Sydney, &c., Mrs. Bowker and three children, Miss Bateman, Viscount Swindale, Messrs. Smith, Magnall and Swift.

Per Bengal, for Hongkong from London, Mr. and Mrs. W. Hill and 2 children, Mrs. Ferguson and 3 children; from Bombay, Messrs. Bhesar-rua Horsmusjee, Bhesarra Cowasjee, W. F. Talate, J. M. Master, Horsmusjee, A. D. Vanea, W. N. Gobhai, B. N. Karanjee, Sedeman Valjee, Fazul Hajee, J. K. Tata, and Harson Elias; from Colombo, Mr. B. Cavanagh; from Singapore, Messrs. J. Anderson, A. Fredrick, Mr. and Mrs. G. C. Moscow, Messrs. Som Keok Seom, Yong Tye, Mrs. Son Seom, and Mr. P. Fokoi and 3 children. For Shanghai from London, Capt. J. H. Parker, Messrs. J. W. Thomas, K. Gokhalay, J. Duncan, and D. Thomas; from Brindisi, Mr. Schmidt; from Marseilles, Mr. O. Kelly, Capt. J. S. Purves, Major B. Creagh, Capt. McSweeney, and Mr. Butler; from Bombay, Mr. C. B. Kohiar and Dr. J. Doctor; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson. For Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. T. Satchell. For Yokohama from London, Rev. C. H. Browne, Messrs. C. B. Cass and Chope; from Marseilles, Mr. L. Hersh. From London, via India for Yokohama, Mr. J. B. Porik; from Marseilles, via Bombay for Yokohama, Mr. W. C. Kragg.

Per Olympia, from Tacoma, Messrs. W. T. Samson and A. J. Forsyth.

Per Formosa, from Amoy, Mr. Lewis, Major Gavne, Lieut. Davis, R.A., Mr. and Mrs. Master, Messrs. Cox, Mackie, and Bathgate; from Swatow, Messrs. Bowles and Lambert.

Per Fushun, from Shanghai, Mrs. Fox and child, Dr. and Mrs. Lowry, Messrs. Griess, B. Curreem, Gutzzeit, and Ching Koyen.

Per Whampoa, from Shanghai, &c., Sir W. C. Anstruther and Mr. Walker.

Per Lightning, from Calcutta, &c., Misses Geary and K. Geary, Bro. Julien, Messrs. Brown and Hodge.

Per Preussen, from Bremen, Prince Lichnowsky, Messrs. Rath Arimatsu, Löhholm, Harling, A. W. Wilson, Alb. Ulrich, A. Thiesen, A. Berg, Fr. Kirchhoff, A. C. Richmond, and Miss Ozaki.

Per Hitachi Maru, from Antwerp, Mr. and Mrs. A. Arthur, Mr. and Mrs. F. M. de Espinosa, Mr. and Mrs. Ko-Yen-Jir, and 275 Chinese.

DEPARTED.

Per Prinz Heinrich, from Kiaoachau for Genoa, Mr. von Spitz; for Bremerhaven, Lieut. Gabriel, Messrs. Matthis, Klahr, J. Korbach, Robt. Nisch, E. Passing, and A. Tolksdorff. From Shanghai for Colombo, Mr. W. Schwartz; for Genoa, Messrs. E. von Strouch, and J. Butler Marquis, Mrs. L. Roggi and child, Miss Fehr, Messrs. F. C. Zimmermann, J. Calder, and E. Lee; for Southampton, Mr. A. Dewar; for London, Messrs. A. Schanenberg, P. Morgan, Miss Morgan, Messrs. G. Pelkington and John Freen. From Yokohama for Port Said, Dr. L. Proskowrakoff; for Genoa, Messrs. Juan Colagan, P. Th. Peetzker, G. Kerchner, and Mrs. Ritter; for Southampton, Miss de Kahtzow; for Bremen, Inspector E. Creutz, Mrs. Creutz and 2 children, and Miss Helene Sachse; from Kobe for Bremerhaven, Mr. H. Walker. From Nagasaki for Genoa, Mr. Fladeef and Consul Krien; for Naples, Mr. S. Angelo Toni; for Bremen, Messrs. Wulff and Meyer. From Vladivostock for Genoa, H. E. Makoffsky. From Manila for Antwerp, Mrs. Andre & 2 children. From Hongkong for Singapore, Messrs. A. A. W. Spencer, R. Isacke, Chan Lo, Chan Von, Mr. and Mrs. F. P. Worsley, Messrs. Wing Pang Cho, Wong Chu Yue, Wong Poo Loong, Wong Pan, Chang Se, E. Jones, Lee Yan, Chu Chang Chung, and How Cheong; for Genoa, Mr. and Mrs. Kuttner and child, and Capt. Jessen; for Southampton, Mrs. Hately, Messrs. Waldron and C. S. Young; for Bremen, Messrs. C. Uldemy, W. Witt, H. Schroeder, F. Regeniter, and A. Wetergrave; for London, Mr. and Mrs. Cartwright, Miss Ellis, Rev. and Mrs. Musson; for Antwerp, Capt. W. Y. Longliam, Messrs. H. W. Reag. E. M. Herst, A. Barbour, C. Owing, and D. Burchett.

Per Parramatta, from Hongkong for Singapore, Capt. J. A. Paton, R.L. Regt., Lieut. W. B. Molony, R.L. Regt., and Mr. R. Gutierrez; for Ismailia, Mrs. and Miss Lewis, Miss E. C. Lewis; for Brindisi or Marseilles, Mrs. G. C. Lauman, Miss R. R. Brevoort, Dr. A. de Potter, Miss S. Williams, Mrs. Wm. C. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. S. P. Fenn, Miss McComb, Mrs. W. P. Hazelton, and Miss F. P. Mills; for Brindisi, Rev. H. B. Dohner, and Mr. E. J. T. Dorner, R.N.; for London via Marseilles, Miss Black, and Hon. E. Trench; for London, Mr. A. E. Blake, Mr. E. A. Goulding, M.P., Miss A. M. Goulding, Miss E. Goulding, Messrs. C. Holman, J. Ryan, R.N., S. de V. Taylor, R.N., and F. M. Seymour, Rev. and Mrs. Kip. From Shanghai for London, Mr. B. A. Isaac.

Per Knivsberg, for Manila. Captain Rowm, Messrs. Clark, Williams, Smith, J. A. Cruikshank, Mc Culloch, and G. A. Geddes.

Per Bengat, for Shanghai from Hongkong, Sub-Lieut. H. P. Cayley, R.N., Mr. F. Barretto, Mr. P. W. Blamfield, Mr. and Mrs. Remedios and child, and Mr. M. P. Talati; from Bombay, Messrs. C. B. Kohiar and D. W. J. Doctor; from Marseilles, Mr. O. Kelly, Capt. J. S. Purvis, Major B. Creagh, Capt. McSweeney, and Mr. Butler; from Brindisi, Mr. Schmidt; from London, Capt. J. H. Parker, Messrs. J. H. Thomas, K. Gokhalay, J. Duncan, and D. Thomas; from Singapore, Mr. and Mrs. Matheson.

Per Rosetta, from Hongkong for Kobe, Mr. Kikumatsu Tanaka; for Yokohama, Mr. T. L. Stevens. For Yokohama from London, Rev. C. H. Browne, Messrs. J. B. Pink, C. B. Cass, from Marseilles, Messrs. L. Hirsch and W. C. Kragg. For Kobe from Marseilles, Mr. T. Satchell.

Per Hohenzollern, for Yokohama from Naples, Imperial Japanese Counsellor Arimatsu; from Southampton, Misses Ozaki (2); from Genoa, Dr. Fr. Kerchhoff; from Suez, Mr. A. C. Richmond; from Hongkong, Mr. F. Pedro.